



Partnership Agreement ACP-EC



Signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000

Revised in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005

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LOUIS MICHEL

European Commissioner
for Development
and Humanitarian Aid

THE COTONOU AGREEMENT BENEFITS THE POOREST

The international development agenda: 5 years of the Cotonou Agreement

Much has happened since that historic moment on 23 June 2000 when the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement was signed, marking the beginning of a new era in the relationship between the ACP States and the European Union. The strengthening of the international development agenda has taken place against a background of an accelerated globalisation process, a rise in international terrorism and conflicts in the poorest countries, increased migratory flows and a rise in illicit trafficking and global environmental threats.

Five years after the signature of the Cotonou Agreement the need for progress in development is more pressing today than ever before.

The priority is, and remains, poverty eradication and sustainable development. The European Union is the world's largest aid donor, responsible for 55% of international aid, the biggest trading partner for the poorest countries, and a key actor in political dialogue, conflict prevention and crisis management on a global scale. The Union is fully aware of its particular responsibility in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and remains firmly committed to strengthening its leadership role in development.

The Cotonou Agreement reflects a strong EU Commitment to Development

In 2005, the EU undertook ambitious commitments to increase its aid effort between now and 2010 and to improve the contribution of non aid policies to the development agenda. The EU is engaged in an important development agenda, which includes better alignment of development policies to the MDG challenges, important growth in development assistance, substantial trade policy contributions such as the "Everything but Arms Initiative", strengthened efforts to improve aid effectiveness through greater donor harmonisation and coordination and a continued

commitment to promoting effective multilateralism. Moreover, for the first time in over 50 years of development cooperation, the new Development Policy Statement, the “European Consensus on Development” (approved by the Commission, European Parliament and Council) defines a common framework, uniting Member States and the Community around common development principles, values and objectives.

The Cotonou Agreement has often been hailed as an exemplary agreement, serving as a model for other EU agreements with third parties. The political dimension of the partnership plays a pivotal role and association of civil society and other stakeholders has contributed to enhancing the effectiveness of our cooperation. The key objective of developing a more strategic common approach to poverty reduction must continue to be steadily promoted. The social, economic, political, cultural and environmental aspects of sustainable development are integrated throughout the Agreement, reflecting the relevant international commitments taken by EU and ACP partners. Moreover, in line with WTO requirements, steady progress is being made on putting into place an innovative economic and trade cooperation framework aimed at abolishing trade obstacles and promoting the gradual integration of ACP countries into the global economy. Efficiency in financial cooperation must continue to improve greater responsiveness in the framework of the programming process and through improved capacity to respond to crises.

Towards a more effective political dialogue

The negotiation of the first five-year revision of the Agreement provided a good opportunity to further improve and deepen the partnership. Following 10 months of intense negotiations, a global agreement was reached and the revised Agreement was signed on 25 June 2005 in Luxembourg.

The approach to the review process was first to consolidate the fundamental “acquis” of the Cotonou Agreement and second, to take stock and improve the effectiveness and quality of the ACP-EC partnership. Accordingly, the revision process has resulted in improved implementation arrangements and the introduction of new security-related provisions.

The ACP States and the Union have agreed to further enhance the political dimension of the partnership by means of a more systematic and formal political dialogue based on the well established principles of partnership and ownership. The amendments place greater emphasis on an effective and results-orientated dialogue rendering the provisions on good governance, human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law more constructive and operational.

Agreement was reached to include a reference to cooperation in counter-ing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). This constitutes a real break-through in the area of international relations, reflecting the common commitment of 78 ACP countries and 25 EU Member States to combating the proliferation of WMD. There was also agreement to include a reference to the International Criminal Court and the Statute of Rome which demonstrates partners’ common commitment to the institutions of global governance. Furthermore, the revised agreement provides for a clause which confirms ACP-EC international cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

My personal commitment to development and my great appreciation of the ACP-EC partnership have been enhanced by the positive and beneficial cooperation I have experienced in the framework of the Cotonou Agreement. I believe that this partnership will continue to play a key role in helping us achieve the many challenges which lie ahead.

H.E. AMBASSADOR EVADNE COYE

Head of the Mission of Jamaica to the EC
Troika Member
Committee of Ambassadors Bureau
ACP Group

THE REVISED ACP-EC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT: PERSPECTIVES FOR THE FUTURE

In its projected lifespan of twenty years, the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement will undergo a review process every five years to ensure it is kept updated and responsive to the global environment that frames ACP-EU relations. The first such review, completed at the Special Meeting of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers convened for that purpose on 23 February, 2005, took place within two years of the entry into force of the Partnership Agreement. With the pace of ratification of the revised agreement likely to be at least as slow as that of the original agreement, the second review might well reflect an inadequate experience of the operationalization of the new commitments and procedures adopted by the Council. At the very outset, then, this article advocates the earliest possible ratification by both EC and ACP States, in demonstration of the continuing significance of their exemplary north-south partnership.

Political perspective

A motivating force in the ACP approach to the review process was the need to forge an authentic spirit of partnership with the EC. Realistically, there would be no escaping the fact that the EC is the dominant partner. Still, the Cotonou Partnership Agreement provided a strong basis for the enhanced interaction that the ACP sought with the EC. It was logical, therefore, that their most important amendments to the Agreement were aimed at strengthening their role in the EC's political dialogue and consultations with members of the ACP Group. That strengthened role would also facilitate intra-ACP political dialogue and heighten the relevance of ACP initiatives in the search for durable solutions to the conflicts that bedevil several members of the Group.

Across the thirty years of its existence, the contribution of the ACP Group to conflict resolution within its membership has been minimal. Its first ever fact-finding mission to a country in conflict was in 2003, shortly after the Agreement entered into force. Since then, the move towards conflict resolution and peace-building efforts has taken root, involving not only other missions to ACP countries, but also a more

meaningful role in the consultations between those countries and the EC. The revised Agreement provides the appropriate framework for ACP-EC collaboration to help the countries concerned. Whereas the consultations under the original Cotonou Agreement were viewed by the ACP in general as punitive, the new framework allows the process to be more about dealing with the root causes of conflicts and the establishment of confidence-building measures, towards a lasting solution.

This is an area of the partnership where ACP peer-group initiatives can usefully underpin the EC's mediatory actions. Greater benefits can be gained from the combination of human and material resources, than through separate action. However, this can only happen on the basis of mutual trust and respect. The ACP will have to demonstrate that our solidarity will neither cause us to deny nor ignore violations within our membership. The EC will have to acknowledge the capacity of the ACP for real partnership in the search for peace and security within the Group's membership.

Security perspective

The issues which caused the greatest difficulty for the ACP during the negotiations were the EC's proposals in the realm of international security. Admittedly, the ACP was able to fairly easily negotiate the proposal for joint commitment to the global fight against terrorism and the EC fairly readily accepted the ACP's proposal for collaboration against mercenaries. However, there was prolonged debate on the EC's proposals in respect of the International Criminal Court and also for cooperation against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) to become an essential element of the Agreement. Consensus was reached some might say, as a result of the EC's status as dominant partner in the negotiations; others will state that what was at issue was not the final objective (universality of the ICC and the non-proliferation of WMD), but the means and that the amendments negotiated made the means acceptable.

What is clear is that the EC has committed itself to a greater degree of cooperation with the ACP. For example, collaboration in the fight against terrorism commits both sides to information exchange on terrorist groups and their support networks. If this is to have any significance, that collaboration must include technological and other support for ACP

national and regional security systems. Additionally, for the agreement in respect of WMD to have any value, the EC has to make good its commitment that *“Financial and technical assistance in the area of cooperation to counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction will be financed by specific instruments other than those intended for the financing of ACP-EC Cooperation”*. (Article 11b, paragraph 2)

Development perspective

The revision has not changed the centrality of the objective of poverty reduction, sustainable development and progressive integration of ACP states into the global economy. However, it identifies the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the targets and principles for development set by United Nations Conferences, as the guiding light for ACP-EC cooperation. It also introduces a new twist: the possibility for non-ACP developing countries in geographical proximity to – or in regional arrangements with – ACP states to participate with such states in EC funded projects. This is in keeping with the EC's own policy of regionalising development cooperation. Implementation will be a challenge for the ACP Group, whose unity and solidarity must also face the regionalization resulting from the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) to be concluded by the end of 2007.

ACP states expect that the changes in the rules and procedures governing cooperation will permit greater efficiency and effectiveness in delivery and implementation. We are deeply concerned that for many of our Group prospects for achieving the MDGs are bleak. It is therefore essential that EC development support be not only adequate, including for the development-centred EPAs, but also contribute to the accelerated development of ACP states.

Françoise MOREAU

Head of Unit

Forward looking studies and policy coherence

European Commission

Directorate-General Development and
Relations with African, Caribbean
and Pacific States

THE COTONOU AGREEMENT

Building on the experience of 30 years of ACP-EC partnership

The agreement, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000 for a period of twenty years and revised in 2005, builds on the acquis of thirty years of experience. The successive Lomé Conventions had provided a unique model of North/South relations, combining a negotiated system of trade preferences and considerable amounts of aid. Yet the results had been mixed. Evaluations of Community aid to the ACP countries often demonstrated that insufficient account had been taken of the institutional and policy context in the partner country, and this had too often undermined the viability and effectiveness of cooperation. The impact of non- reciprocal trade preferences had also proven disappointing. The rise in private direct investment flows to the developing countries over the previous two decades had not benefited the majority of ACP countries. Although the farsightedness and the contractual nature of the Lomé Conventions were acquis worth preserving, there was also an obvious need to adapt to international and regional developments. The rise in poverty in a number of countries, demographic development and environmental pressures meant that objectives and cooperation practices needed to be substantially reviewed.

The Cotonou Agreement tried to provide responses to these challenges. It was elaborated following a broad public consultation launched in 1996 on the basis on the Commission Green Paper on the future of relations between the European Union and the ACP countries. Wide-ranging public debate made it possible to assess the expectations and changes needed to bring a new dynamic to these relations and create a modern, authentic and efficient partnership.

The partnership reflects an evolution of the political dimension. Dialogue plays a key role in the success of development cooperation activities, and the political dimension of poverty-reduction strategies and sustainable is henceforth acknowledged to be an integral part of development processes. The first revision of the Agreement has been an opportunity to further strengthening the provisions on the political dialogue.

The ACP-EC partnership also aims at promoting increased participation of civil society, the private sector and the economic and social actors.

This approach is inherent to the consolidation of democracy, and can improve the effectiveness and viability of cooperation policies. In the revised version of the Agreement this participatory dimension has also been further defined.

The Cotonou Agreement (2000)

The ACP-EC partnership makes a clear link between the political dimension, trade and development. It is based on five pillars:

- reinforcement of the political dimension of relations between ACP countries and the European Union;
- involvement of civil society, the private sector and other non-State players;
- poverty reduction, confirmed as a key objective within the context of the objectives and targets agreed at international level (in particular the Millennium Development Goals);
- an innovative economic and trade cooperation framework;
- rationalisation of financial instruments and a system of flexible programming.

The agreement was concluded for twenty years, with a clause allowing for revision every five years and a financial protocol for each five-year period. As regards the trade agreements, a specific timetable was agreed between the parties, anticipating the various stages leading to the effective setting-up of the new arrangements. Certain aspects of the Agreement, particularly the sectoral policy guidelines defined in a “Compendium” or the procedures for implementing financial assistance contained in the annexes, can be adapted on a regular basis if necessary. The ACP-EC council of Ministers, which in principle meets once a year is responsible for adaptations. This approach embodies the dynamic nature of the partnership and provides for greater flexibility in the cooperation system.

The revised Cotonou Agreement (2005)

The Cotonou Agreement contains a revision clause (article 95) which foresees that the Agreement can be adapted every five years (with the exception of the economic and trade provisions, for which there is a special review procedure). In accordance with Article 95, at the end of February 2004, EC and ACP partners notified the provisions of the Agreement they wished to amend. The negotiations were launched at the ACP-EC Council of Ministers in Gaborone in May 2004 and were concluded at a ministerial meeting in Brussels on 23 February 2005. The revised Agreement was signed in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005.

The revision process did not call into question the fundamental acquis of the Cotonou Agreement. The objectives were rather to enhance the effectiveness and quality of the ACP-EC partnership, to ensure its consistency with the new international agenda for development, to further deepen the political dimension of the partnership and to broaden the cooperation framework in order to include new important security issues. The revised provisions can be broadly grouped under four headings: the political dimension and security issues, development strategies, Investment Facility and implementation and management procedures.

Significant evolutions in the Agreement: from Cotonou 2000 to the revision of 2005

– The initial political dimension (2000)

Regular political dialogue should promote the consistency and relevance of ACP-EC cooperation strategies and make it possible to address all issues of mutual interest. Important matters such as peace-building and conflict-prevention policies, and migration, were deliberately introduced into the Agreement in 2000. Respect for human rights, democratic principles, the rule of law, and good governance are subjects for regular dialogue where regional and sub-regional organisations and representatives of civil society can be associated. The Joint Parliamentary Assembly is called upon to play a particularly important role in such areas. Consultation procedures are envisaged in the event of violation of human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law, or in serious cases of corruption.

– The political dimension: enlarged to include security issues (2005)

The political dimension

The revised Agreement makes provision for a more systematic and formal dialogue under article 8 in relation to the three essential elements (human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law). Furthermore, this dialogue must now be held before the consultation procedure under Article 96 can be launched - except in cases of special urgency. Representatives of the ACP Group and of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly may henceforth take part in the political dialogue provided for under Article 8. These provisions are complemented by a new Annexe VII setting out detailed modalities for the structured dialogue.

In keeping with the preventive nature of the dialogue provided for under Article 8, a formal, structured dialogue must now be held with each country. Annexe VII lays down detailed modalities for this dialogue:

- it provides for joint drawing-up of benchmarks and targets for human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law;
- these benchmarks and targets must be based on the international standards laid down by the instruments referred to in the preamble (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, agreements on civil and political, economic, social and cultural rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, etc.);
- these benchmarks and objectives must take account of the particular circumstances in each country (economic, political and social context).

This structured dialogue should lead to greater transparency and should strengthen the efficiency of political dialogue as a preventive tool. It should result in commitments with regard to intermediate objectives and implementation timelines. An in-depth dialogue of this kind requires regular contacts and must continue over a sufficiently long period to enable progress to be measured against the commitments undertaken. If, at the end of the formal dialogue, one party believes that the other has failed to respect an essential obligation, it can invoke the consultation procedure and, if necessary, the appropriate measures provided for under Article 96. The time-frames for consultations under Articles 96 and 97 have also been extended.

Security issues

ACP-EC partners agreed on the introduction of three security-related provisions into the Agreement. This includes a reference to cooperation in countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) (Article 11b). The provision calls for full compliance with and national implementation of existing international obligations, as an essential element of the Cotonou Agreement. The provision also contains: (1) a statement that additional financial and technical assistance will be granted for cooperation on non-proliferation of WMD and that this will not be funded from resources intended for ACP-EC development cooperation; (2) a statement specifying that the timetable for such measures will be tailored to the specific circumstances in each country and (3) a provision whereby compliance with non-proliferation measures must be

assessed in particular on the basis of reports produced by the relevant multilateral institutions.

Partners also agreed to inclusion of a provision on the International Criminal Court and the Statute of Rome in the preamble as well as in the text of the Agreement (Article 11 §6).

Furthermore, the revised Agreement includes a clause which confirms partners' international cooperation in the fight against terrorism (Article 11a) and a provision relating to the prevention of mercenary activities (Article 11§3a).

– Civil society and the participatory approach (2000)

The general provisions aim to promote the involvement of civil society and economic and social players within the context of the partnership. They stress the need for information; support for capacity building; the principle of consultation of non-state players on reforms and economic, social and institutional policies to be supported by the Community; involvement of non-State actors in the implementation of programmes and projects; and the encouragement of networking and strengthening of links between ACP and EC actors.

– 2005 Revision: deepening of participatory approaches

The revision related to:

- Non-state actors: insertion of provisions to facilitate non-state actor access to indicative programme resources, under a strategy to be approved by the Commission and the ACP State concerned. These actors can benefit directly from financing via grant contracts drawn up between the Commission and the body in question. This will apply provided that the types of non-state actors and the type of activities to be supported are identified in the country strategy paper (Annexe IV, Articles 4 and 58);
- Local authorities : insertion of a provision aiming at involving them in the consultation processes and in the implementation of programmes (Article 4);

– Development strategies: focus on poverty reduction (2000)

The partnership is centred on the objective of reducing and, in the long term, eradicating poverty, in line with the objectives of sustainable development and progressive integration of the ACP countries into the

global economy. The Agreement defines a general strategic framework reflecting international commitments and simultaneously taking into account the political, economic, social, cultural and environmental components of development. In contrast to previous Conventions, the Cotonou Agreement defines a global strategy for development which requires the Community, Members States and ACP partners to work together to establish a consolidated and operational cooperation framework. This includes qualitative and quantitative indicators to allow systematic evaluation of results.

This approach takes into account the complexity and multi-dimensional nature of poverty. It concentrates on three priority areas of cooperation: economic development; social and human development; and regional integration and cooperation. In all these areas it envisages the systematic consideration of three cross-cutting themes: gender equality, sustainable management of the environment and natural resources; and institutional development and capacity-building. This approach means that priorities are established on a country-by-country basis. Country and regional cooperation strategies are the subjects of regular reports and are reviewed on a regular basis.

– Development strategies: the results of the revision (2005)

ACP and EC partners proposed a series of amendments relating to sectoral strategies and agreement was reached on all the proposals. This included, in particular, specific references to the following elements:

- Millennium Development Goals: inclusion of a reference to the MDGs in the preamble of the Agreement which reaffirms partners' commitment to those goals (see annexe);
- Social sector: inclusion of a reference to the promotion of the fight against poverty-related diseases and protection of sexual and reproductive health and rights of women (article 25);
- Regional Cooperation (articles 28, 29, 30, 58, annexe IV): simplification of procedures to request intra-ACP financing and facilitation of cooperation between ACP States and other developing countries on the basis of reciprocity;
- Information and communication technologies: introduction of a provision on the development and use of local content for ICTs (article 43);
- Youth: promotion of the participation of young people in public life and encouragement of exchanges and interaction between ACP and EU youth organisations (article 26);

- Traditional knowledge: promotion of traditional knowledge as part of sectoral economic development (article 23);
- Island ACP States: strengthening of existing provisions on island ACP States, emphasising their increased vulnerability brought about new economic, social and ecological challenges and promoting a harmonised approach in this respect (article 89).

– The trade framework

Within the context of the Lomé convention, trade cooperation was based essentially on preferential tariffs. Under the Cotonou Agreement, economic and trade cooperation consists of a more complete set of arrangements. The EC and the ACP countries agreed on an approach which aims to establish new trade agreements leading to the liberalisation of trade between the parties and which includes cooperation in trade related areas, such as competition policy, the protection of intellectual property rights, standardisation and certification, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, respect for labour standards, and consumer policy. The Agreement also includes provisions for ACP-EC cooperation in international fora.

The objective of economic and trade cooperation is to promote the progressive integration of the ACP countries into the global economy, by enhancing production and the capacity to attract investment, and ensuring conformity with WTO provisions, whilst taking account of respective development constraints. The strategy adopted establishes a clear link between development aid, particularly support for modernisation of the economy, for adjustment needs and for social policies on the one hand, and the setting-up of a regulatory and trade-policy framework to favour the development of trade and private investment on the other. The ACP-EC Agreement aims to support the mutually reinforcing effects of economic and trade cooperation and development aid.

As regards modalities and procedures, the ACP-EC agreement foresees the introduction of new trade agreements after a preparatory eight-year period during which the Lomé trade regime is maintained. Formal negotiation of EPAs at the level of all ACP countries started in September 2002. Since October 2003 regional negotiations with the six regions (West Africa, Central Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, the Southern African Development Community, Caribbean, & Pacific) have been progressively launched. Joint roadmaps or plans and schedules were developed with each region to outline the expected course of the negotiations. The new trade agreements should enter into force in January 2008 at the latest. The liberalisation of trade will be

achieved asymmetrically to give more time to ACP countries during transitional periods still to be determined, but which must take into account the development and adjustment needs of the ACP countries whilst respecting WTO rules.

The Community has undertaken to liberalise practically all imports of products originating from the LDCs. In February 2001, the Council adopted the 'Everything But Arms' Regulation granting duty-free access to imports of all products from LDCs without any quantitative restrictions, except for arms and munitions. Only imports of fresh bananas, rice and sugar are not fully liberalised immediately. Duties on those products will be gradually reduced until duty free access is granted for bananas in January 2006, for sugar in July 2009 and for rice in September 2009. In the meantime, there will be duty free tariff quotas for rice and sugar.

– Financial cooperation: instruments and programming (2000)

In 2000, the instruments of the European development fund (EDF) were regrouped and rationalised. All available EDF resources are now channelled via two instruments: one envelope which groups together all non-reimbursable aid, and one envelope providing risk capital and loans with a view to supporting the development of the private and commercially run public sector through an investment facility managed by the European Investment Bank (EIB). The envelope of non-reimbursable aid comprises a programmable part and a part for unforeseen needs which allows for the mobilisation of supplementary resources within the framework of the Community Support Strategy and of the Indicative Programme. A system of flexible programming with regular reviews allows the support strategy to be periodically adapted as the situation in the country or region evolves. The consolidation of the various EDFs in 2000 made it possible to avoid parallel programming systems.

The use of budget support - general or for specific sectors - is being encouraged where conditions allow. This aid modality best respects the primary responsibility of the partner country in the development process (ownership) and facilitates harmonisation and alignment.

The allocation of resources is based on an assessment of needs and policy performance. Five-yearly financial envelopes are defined on an indicative basis. A review of the support strategy, at mid-term and at the end of the period for application of the financial protocol, may also

involve adaptation of the level of resources allocated to each country or region on the basis of needs and performance. The revised Cotonou Agreement gives further opportunities to revise allocations in order to respond to special needs or exceptional performance. This approach makes it possible to provide more effective support to efforts at reform in certain countries, and to prevent resources being frozen in others. Such flexibility has been further increased in the revised Cotonou Agreement in 2005.

The involvement of Non-State Actors through dialogue and consultation on development cooperation strategies and through their active participation in the implementation of cooperation programmes is a clearly established principle in the Cotonou Agreement.

Regional programmes are also subject to a flexible programming system and are re-examined at mid-term and at the end of the 5-year period. Particular account is taken of progress made and prospects for future regional cooperation and integration.

– The revised implementation and management procedures (2005)

A number of amendments were introduced with the threefold objective of simplification, clarification and harmonisation, while preserving the fundamental acquis of the Cotonou Agreement. At the ministerial conference concluding the negotiations on the revision of the Cotonou Agreement, it was decided that the Joint Council will finalise discussions and take a decision on the updating and renewed harmonisation of the procurement procedures and of the implementing arrangements for the instrument for financing short-term fluctuations in export earnings (FLEX). The revised provisions include:

- Greater flexibility in the allocation of resources; in particular, this implies to maintain a larger reserve when resources are allocated and the possibility of increasing the amounts in national and regional envelopes other than through the reviews planned for that purpose, in the light of special needs, exceptional performance, or to cover international initiatives of benefit to the ACP countries (Annexe IV, Articles 3, 9, 12);
- Financial management in crisis or conflict situations; possibility to allow the Commission to directly manage resources for policies to promote peace and to manage and settle conflicts, including post-conflict support, until normal conditions have been restored (Annexe IV, Article 4);

- Support for initiatives on untying of aid; in particular in the framework of ACP cooperation and regional integration efforts (Annexe IV, Articles 6, 14, 20);
- Reformulation of the responsibilities of managing and executing agents; strengthening the strategic role of the national authorising officer; rewording of the texts relating to the internal organisation of the Commission, which is prone to change regularly in the context of the devolution process (Annexe IV, Articles 34, 35, 36);
- A number of changes aimed at simplifying procedures;
- Financing devolution; the purpose of the new provision is to enable €90 million of intra-ACP cooperation resources to fund devolution in 2006-07 (Annexe I §9).

– Investment Facility: improvements (2005)

In order to make implementation of the investment Facility more flexible and more effective, a number of changes were made concerning the conditions attached to loans and interest-rate subsidies, exchange-rate-risk-sharing and repayments to the Bank. In addition, as is the case for resources managed by the Commission, the investment facility is now subject to a joint performance review half-way through (mid-term) and at the end of the financial protocol.

– Initial financial resources (2000)

A significant volume of financial resources had been earmarked for the first multi-annual period to support development strategies in the ACP countries: €13.5 billion for the 9th EDF, plus €9.9 billion in remaining balances from previous EDFs at the end of 1999, ie a total of €23.5 billion for the period 2000-2007, plus an additional amount up to €1.7 billion from the EIB's own resources.

– The new Multi-annual Financial Framework (2005)

At the final ministerial conference, the parties reached a preliminary conclusion on the post 9th EDF multi-annual financial framework for cooperation (Annexe Ia). The Community committed to maintaining its aid effort to the ACP countries at least at the level of the 9th EDF, not including balances and adding the effects of inflation, growth within the European Union and enlargement to 10 new Member States in 2004, on

the basis of Community estimates. This minimum aid effort is guaranteed without prejudice to the eligibility of ACP states' for additional resources under other financial instruments which already exist or may yet be created.

At the European Council of 16 December 2005, the EDF 9 successor was agreed. Cooperation with the ACP countries will be allocated €22,682 million in current prices for the period 2008-2013.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS, TARGETS AND INDICATORS (MDGS)

Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)	Indicators for monitoring progress
Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	
Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day 2. Poverty gap ratio [incidence x depth of poverty] 3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption
Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age 5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption
Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education	
Target 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Net enrolment ratio in primary education 7. Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5 8. Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds
Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women	
Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education 10. Ratio of literate women to men, 15-24 years old 11. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector 12. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament
Goal 4. Reduce child mortality	
Target 5: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Under-five mortality rate 14. Infant mortality rate 15. Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles
Goal 5. Improve maternal health	
Target 6: Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Maternal mortality ratio 17. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)	Indicators for monitoring progress
Goal 6. Combat hiv/aids, malaria and other diseases	
Target 7: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/ AIDS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24 years 19. Condom use rate of the contraceptive prevalence rate 19a. Condom use at last high-risk sex 19b. Percentage of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS 19c. Contraceptive prevalence rate 20. Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years
Target 8: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. Prevalence and death rates associated with malaria 22. Proportion of population in malaria-risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures 23. Prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis 24. Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course DOTS (Internationally recommended TB control strategy)
Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability	
Target 9: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. Proportion of land area covered by forest 26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area 27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP) 28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone depleting CFCs (ODP tons) 29. Proportion of population using solid fuels
Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural 31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural
Target 11: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure

Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)	Indicators for monitoring progress
Goal 8. Develop a global partnership for development	
<p>Target 12: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system</p> <p>Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction - both nationally and internationally.</p>	<p><i>Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States</i></p> <p><u>Official development assistance (ODA)</u></p> <p>33. ANet ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income</p>
<p>Target 13: Address the special needs of the least developed countries</p> <p>Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction.</p>	<p>34. Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)</p> <p>35. Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied</p> <p>36. ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes</p>
<p>Target 14: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States</p> <p>(through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly).</p>	<p>37. ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes</p> <p><u>Market access</u></p> <p>38. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty</p>
<p>Target 15: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term</p>	<p>39. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries</p> <p>40. Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product</p> <p>41. Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity</p> <p><u>Debt sustainability</u></p> <p>42. Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)</p> <p>43. Debt relief committed under HIPC Initiative</p> <p>44. Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services</p>

Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)	Indicators for monitoring progress
<p>Target 16: In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth</p>	<p>45. Unemployment rate of young people aged 15-24 years, each sex and total</p>
<p>Target 17: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries</p>	<p>46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis</p>
<p>Target 18: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</p>	<p>47. Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population</p> <p>48. Personal computers in use per 100 population</p> <p>Internet users per 100 population</p>

The Millennium Development Goals and targets come from the Millennium Declaration, signed by 189 countries, including 147 heads of State and Government, in September 2000. The goals and targets are interrelated and should be seen as a whole. They represent a partnership between the developed countries and the developing countries "to create an environment - at the national and global levels alike - which is conducive to development and the elimination of poverty".

LIST OF COUNTRIES SIGNATORIES OF THE ACP-EC AGREEMENT AMENDING THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Information for readers

The blue pages contain the list of countries which have signed the ACP-EC Agreement amending the Partnership Agreement of 25 June 2005; the yellow pages, the consolidated text of the Agreement; the green pages, the annexes and protocols, and the grey pages, the Final Act.
The modifications are in red.

Please note that only the text of the Agreement amending the Partnership Agreement published in the paper edition of the Official Journal of the European Communities is deemed authentic.

O.J. L 317, 15 December 2000
O.J. L 297, 22 September 2004
O.J. L 209, 11 August 2005
O.J. L 287, 28 October 2005
O.J. L 247, 09 September 2006

**IN
LUXEMBOURG
ON 25 JUNE 2005**

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF DENMARK, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SPAIN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GRAND DUKE OF LUXEMBOURG, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY, THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS, THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND, THE PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, Contracting Parties to the Treaty establishing the European Community, hereinafter referred to as "the Community", the States of the Community being hereinafter referred to as "Member States", and THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, of the one part, and THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, THE HEAD OF STATE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS, THE HEAD OF STATE OF BARBADOS, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF BELIZE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BENIN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA, THE PRESIDENT OF BURKINA FASO, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF THE COMOROS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ERITREA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF FIJI, THE PRESIDENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC, THE PRESIDENT AND HEAD OF STATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF GRENADA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-BISSAU, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI, THE HEAD OF STATE OF JAMAICA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI, HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALI, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU,
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THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NIGER,	HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND,	CONSIDERING that Article 95(1) of the Cotonou Agreement lays down that the duration of the Agreement shall be twenty years, starting on 1 March 2000,	HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SPAIN, Alberto NAVARRO GONZALEZ State Secretary for the European Union
THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,	CONSIDERING that the second subparagraph of Article 95(3) of the Cotonou Agreement provides that ten months before the expiry of each five-year period, the Parties shall enter into negotiations with a view to examining any possible amendments to the provisions of the Cotonou Agreement,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, Brigitte GIRARDIN Minister with responsibility for Cooperation, Development and the French-speaking World
THE GOVERNMENT OF NIUE,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD,	HAVE DECIDED to sign this Agreement amending the Cotonou Agreement and to this end have designated as their Plenipotentiaries:	THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, Ronan MURPHY Director General, Development Cooperation Directorate, Department of Foreign Affairs
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU,	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE,	HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, Armand DE DECKER Minister for Development Cooperation	THE PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, Rocco Antonio CANGELOSI Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the European Union
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE TOGOLESE REPUBLIC,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, Vladimir A. CHIZHOV Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS, Nicholas EMILIOU Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the European Union
THE PRESIDENT OF THE RWANDESE REPUBLIC,	HIS MAJESTY KING TAUFU'AHAU TUPOU IV OF TONGA,	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF DENMARK, Ib Ritto ANDREASEN Ambassador to Luxembourg	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA, Lelde LICE-LICITE Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative to the EU, Counsellor of Education and Culture
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, Erich STATHER State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, Rokas BERNOTAS Director of the Department of Multilateral Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SAINT LUCIA,	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF TUVALU,	Dorothee JANETZKE-WENZEL Head of African Politics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GRAND DUKE OF LUXEMBOURG, Jean-Louis SCHILTZ Minister for Cooperation and Humanitarian Action, Minister with responsibility for Communications
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC, Constantin KARABETSIS Ambassador, Director General for International Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	
THE HEAD OF STATE OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA,	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU,		
THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE,	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA,		
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL,	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE,		
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES,	whose States are hereinafter referred to as "ACP States",		
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE,	of the other part,		
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SOLOMON ISLANDS,	HAVING REGARD to the Treaty establishing the European Community, on the one hand, and the Georgetown Agreement establishing the Group of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP), on the other,		
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA,			
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN,	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 (hereinafter referred to as the "Cotonou Agreement"),		
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME,			

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY, András BÁRSONY Political State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND, Ritva JOLKKOSEN Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BENIN, Massiyatou LATOUNDJI LAURIANO Minister for Industry, Trade and Employment Promotion	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO, Pierre MOUSSA Minister of State for Planning, Regional Development and Economic Integration, National Authorising Officer
THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA, Bernard HAMILTON First Councillor, Acting Director for Bilateral Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN, Agneta SÖDERMAN Ambassador to Luxembourg	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA, Lt. Gen. Mompoti MERAFHE Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS Todd McCLAY Ambassador
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS, P.J. YMKERS Counsellor, Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the EU	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, Gareth THOMAS, MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for International Development	THE PRESIDENT OF BURKINA FASO, Jean-Baptiste Marie Pascal COMPAORE Minister for Finance and the Budget	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE, Amadou SOUMAHORO Minister for Trade
THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA, Gregor WOSCHNAGG Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the European Union	THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, Jean-Louis SCHILTZ Minister for Cooperation and Humanitarian Action, Minister with responsibility for Communications, President-in-office of the Council of the EU Louis MICHEL Member of the Commission of the European Communities	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI, Thomas MINANI Minister for Trade and Industry	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI, Ali Farah ASSOWEH Minister for the Economy, Finance and Planning, with responsibility for privatisation
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND, Jan TRUSZCZYNSKI Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA, Ana DIAS LOURENCO Minister for Planning	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON, Isabelle BASSONG Ambassador	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA, George R.E. BULLEN Ambassador
THE PRESIDENT OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC, João GOMES CRAVINHO State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, Dr. Carl ROBERTS High Commissioner of Antigua & Barbuda to the United Kingdom	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE, Victor Manuel BORGES Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Communities, President of the ACP Council of Ministers	THE PRESIDENT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, Onofre ROJAS Secretary of State, National Authorising Officer
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA, Marjan ŠETINC Ambassador, Coordinator for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	THE HEAD OF STATE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS, Errol Leroy HUMPHREYS Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, Guy ZOUNGERE-SOKAMBI Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ERITREA, Andebrhan WELDEGIORGIS Ambassador
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the European Union	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF BELIZE, Yvonne HYDE Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF THE COMOROS, Aboudou SOEFO Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA, Sufian AHMED Minister for Finance and Economic Development
		THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, Christian KAMBINGA SELE Deputy Minister for International Cooperation	THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF FIJI, Ratu Seremaia T. CAVUILATI Ambassador

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GABONESE REPUBLIC, Casimir OYE MBA Minister of State, Minister for Planning and Development Programmes, National Authorising Officer	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, Marx Gad NJUGUNA KAHENDE Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, Sutiawan GUNESSEE Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE RWANDESE REPUBLIC, Monique NSANZABAGANWA State Secretary with responsibility for planning at the Ministry of Finance
THE PRESIDENT AND HEAD OF STATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA, Yusupha Aliou KAH Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI, Paul MALIN Head of Unit, DG Development of the Commission of the EC	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, Paul MALIN Head of Unit, DG Development of the Commission of the EC	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS, Timothy HARRIS Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA, Georg Y. GUYAN-BAFFOUR, M.P. Deputy Minister for Finance and Economic Planning	HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO, Mpho MALIE Minister for Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE, Henrique BANZE Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, National Authorising Officer	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SAINT LUCIA, George R.E. BULLEN Ambassador
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF GRENADA, Joan-Marie COUTAIN Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, Youngor Sevelee TELEWODA Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA, Peter Hitjitevi KATAJAVIVI Ambassador	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES, George R.E. BULLEN Ambassador
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA, El Hadj Thierno Habib DIALLO Minister for Cooperation	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR, Sahobisoa Olivier ANDRIANARISON Minister for Industrialisation, Trade and Private Sector Development	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU, Dr. Karl H. KOCH Honorary Consul in Belgium	THE HEAD OF STATE OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA, Tau'il'iili Uili MEREDITH Ambassador
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-BISSAU, Nagib JAHOUD Chargé d'affaires a.i.	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI, Brian Granthen BOWLER Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NIGER, Ali MAHAMAN LAMINE ZEINE Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs	THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE, Horácio FERNANDES DA FONSECA PURVIS Chargé d'affaires a.i.
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA, Victorino Nka OBIANG MAYE Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALI, Moctar OUANE Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, Clarkson NWAKANMA UMELO Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL, Saliou CISSE Ambassador
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA, Patrick Ignatius GOMES Ambassador	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, Paul MALIN Head of Unit, DG Development of the Commission of the EC	THE GOVERNMENT OF NIUE, Todd McCLAY Ambassador	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES, Patrick PILLAY Minister for Foreign Affairs
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI, Hérard ABRAHAM Minister for Foreign Affairs and Religious Affairs	THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA, Sidi OULD DIDI Minister for Economic Affairs and Development	THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU, Paul MALIN Head of Unit, DG Development of the Commission of the EC	THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE, Mohamed B. DARAMY Minister for Development and Economic Planning
THE HEAD OF STATE OF JAMAICA, K.D. KNIGHT, QC, MP Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade		HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, Sir Rabbie NAMALIU KCMG, MP Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration	HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF SOLOMON ISLANDS, Fredrick FONO Minister for National Planning and Aid Coordination

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SOUTH AFRICA,
Mosibudi MANGENA
Minister for Science and Technology

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE SUDAN,
Ali Yousif AHMED
Ambassador

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SURINAME,
Maria E. LEVENS
Minister for Foreign Affairs

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE
KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND,
Clifford Sibusiso MAMBA
Principal Secretary of the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA,
Festus B. LIMBU, MP
Deputy Minister for Finance

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CHAD,
Abderahim Yacoub NDIAYE
Ambassador

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF TIMOR LESTE
José António AMORIM DIAS
Ambassador,
Head of the Mission to
the European Union

THE PRESIDENT OF THE TOGOLESE
REPUBLIC,
Gilbert BAWARA
Minister Delegate to the Minister of
State,
Minister for Foreign Affairs and African
Integration with responsibility for
cooperation

HIS MAJESTY KING TAUFA'AHAU
TUPOU IV OF TONGA,
Paul MALIN
Head of Unit, DG Development of
the Commission of the EC

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO,
Diane SEUKERAN
Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and
Industry

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF TUVALU,
Paul MALIN
Head of Unit, DG Development of the
Commission of the EC

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
UGANDA,
Deo K. RWABITA
Ambassador

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
VANUATU,
Sato KILMAN
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZAMBIA,
Felix CHIBOTA MUTATI
Deputy Minister for Finance and
National Planning

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZIMBABWE,
Gift PUNUNGWE
Ambassador