



Council of the  
European Union

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## **LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers as regards the revision of Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement

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**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2018/...**

**of ...**

**on the position to be adopted**

**on behalf of the European Union within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers  
as regards the revision of Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 209 in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

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<sup>1</sup>, as last amended,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 317, 15.12.2000, p. 3.

Whereas:

- (1) The Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States ('ACP') of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part ('the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement'), provides for the adoption of financial protocols for each five-year period.
- (2) On 8 February 2013, the Union and its Member States agreed to lay down the financing mechanism of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, namely the 11th European Development Fund, the exact period to be covered (2014-2020), and the amount of funds to be allocated to that mechanism. Consequently, the financial protocol to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement for the period 2014-2020 was adopted by Decision No 1/2013 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers<sup>1</sup>, with the Annex to that Decision becoming Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.
- (3) The ACP-EU Partnership Agreement states that the ACP-EU Council of Ministers may revise, review and amend certain Annexes to the Agreement on the basis of a recommendation from the ACP-EU Development Finance Cooperation Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision No 1/2013 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers of 7 June 2013 adopting a protocol on the multiannual financial framework for the period 2014-2020 under 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 (OJ L 173, 26.6.2013, p. 67).

- (4) The Union should support the reassignment of funds under Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement from the allocation to finance national and regional indicative programmes, towards the allocation to finance the intra-ACP and interregional cooperation with many or all of the ACP States.
- (5) It is appropriate to establish the position to be adopted on the Union's behalf in the ACP-EU Council of Ministers regarding the revision of Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.
- (6) The position of the Union within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers should therefore be based on the attached draft Decision,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

1. The position to be adopted on the Union's behalf within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers regarding the revision of Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement shall be based on the draft Decision of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers attached to this Decision.
2. Minor changes to the draft Decision may be agreed by the representatives of the Union in the ACP-EU Council of Ministers without further decision of the Council.

*Article 2*

After its adoption, the Decision of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

*Article 3*

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

*For the Council*

*The President*

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DRAFT

**DECISION No ... /2018  
OF THE ACP-EU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**of ...**

**regarding the revision of Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement**

THE ACP-EU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

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<sup>1</sup> ('the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement'), as last amended, and in particular Article 15(2), in conjunction with Article 100 thereof,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ EC L 317, 15.12.2000, p. 3.

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Article 15(2) of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, the functions of the Council of Ministers include taking any decision to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the Agreement.
- (2) Article 100 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement states that certain Annexes may be revised, reviewed and/or amended by the Council of Ministers on the basis of a recommendation from the ACP-EU Development Finance Cooperation Committee.

- (3) Annex Ic of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement should be revised in order to reassign funds between cooperation instruments under the European Development Fund towards the intra-ACP and interregional cooperation instrument. The reassigned funds are to contribute to the financing of the Spotlight initiative and to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE). The Spotlight initiative is a joint EU-UN global action aimed at preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in targeted countries. On the basis of evidence, the Spotlight initiative will focus on particular forms of sexual and gender based violence that are prevalent or prominently emerge in specific regions, thus contributing to reaching the sustainable development goal no 5 (SDG 5) on 'Gender Equality'. The GPE's overall objective is to mobilise global and national efforts to achieve quality education and learning for all, through inclusive partnership, a focus on effective education systems, and financing for basic education. Both initiatives are in line with the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement as well as with the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development that promote a more comprehensive approach to human development. For education, this approach means more support for inclusive and equitable quality education for all and life-long learning (SDG 4), with a strong focus on promoting gender equality (SDG 5),

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:



*Article 1*

1. In order to meet programming requirements, funding under the European Development Fund shall be reassigned between the allocations for cooperation instruments set out in Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.
2. An amount of EUR 425 million shall be reassigned from the general reserve for National and Regional Indicative Programmes, set out in point 2(a) of Annex Ic, to the intra-ACP and interregional cooperation, set out in point 2(b) of Annex Ic, as follows:
  - an amount of EUR 350 million shall be allocated to the Spotlight initiative;
  - an amount of EUR 75 million shall be allocated to the Global Partnership for Education.

## *Article 2*

As a consequence of the reassignment of allocations under Article 1, points 2(a) and (b) of Annex Ic to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement shall be replaced by the following:

- '(a) EUR 23 940 million to finance national and regional indicative programmes. This allocation will be used to finance:
  - (i) the national indicative programmes of individual ACP States in accordance with Articles 1 to 5 of Annex IV to this Agreement concerning implementation and management procedures;
  - (ii) the regional indicative programmes of support for regional and inter-regional cooperation and regional integration of ACP States in accordance with Articles 6 to 11 of Annex IV to this Agreement concerning implementation and management procedures;

- (b) EUR 4 015 million to finance intra-ACP and interregional cooperation with many or all of the ACP States in accordance with Articles 12 to 14 of Annex IV to this Agreement concerning implementation and management procedures. This envelope shall include support to joint institutions and bodies created under this Agreement. It shall also cover assistance with the operating expenditure of the ACP Secretariat referred to in points 1 and 2 of Protocol No 1 on the operating expenditure of the joint institutions;'

*Article 3*

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at ...,

*For the ACP-EU Council of Ministers  
The President*

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