



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 5 July 2018
(OR. en)

10542/18

ACP 60
PTOM 23
COAFR 173
COLAC 49
COASI 164
WTO 169
RELEX 591

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: ACP Working Party
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Decision to make public the negotiating directives for a Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States of the one part, and with countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the other part

1. On 22 June 2018 the Council adopted the negotiating directives for a Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States of the one part, and with countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the other part.

2. On 4 July 2018, the ACP Working Party agreed, following the general principles set out in a statement to the minutes of the Council of 10 March 2015¹ and having carefully considered the negotiating directives, that the decision to make the negotiating directives public would, in this instance, have no impact on the ability of the EU to negotiate effectively and would not undermine the EU's negotiating position in these specific negotiations. Consequently, the ACP Working Party endorsed the decision to make public the negotiating directives, as contained in document 8094/18 ADD 1 LIMITE, at the earliest convenience. All Member State delegations expressed their common accord for the subject matters of the Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States of the one part, and with countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the other part relating to their competences.
3. Against this background, the Permanent Representatives' Committee is invited to recommend that:
 - a) the Council decide to make public the negotiating directives for a Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States of the one part, and with countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the other part;
 - b) the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States decide to make public the negotiating directives for a Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States of the one part, and with countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the other part.
4. In accordance with Article 218(10) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the European Parliament will be duly informed of the decision taken.

¹ Doc. 7060/1/15 REV 1, p. 5.