

ACP-EU COTONOU AGREEMENT

**ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN,
CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC STATES**

**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 31 January 2024
(OR. en)**

ACP/21/007/23

ACP-UE 2112/23

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

Subject: Outcome of proceeding of the 46th session of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers in Apia, Samoa, on 15 November 2023

The ACP-EU Council of Ministers held its 46th meeting in Apia (Samoa), on 15 November 2023, under the chairmanship of H.E. Ms Pilar CANCELA RODRÍGUEZ, Secretary of State for International Cooperation of Spain, President-in-Office of the Council of the European Union.

The meeting was co-chaired for the OACPS by H.E. Mr Bendito DOS SANTOS FREITAS, Minister of Foreign and Cooperation of Timor-Leste, representing the ACP Council of Ministers.

The European Commission was represented by Ms Jutta URPILAINEN, Commissioner for International Partnerships.

ITEM 1

ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

[ACP/21/004/23 - ACP-UE 2106/23]

The Council adopted the agenda with the addition of a sub-item under item 6 on the Delegation of powers to the ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors to adopt a joint OACPS-EU declaration for COP28.

"A" ITEMS

ITEM 2

ADOPTION OF

- **Outcome of proceedings of the 45th session of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers on 29 November 2022**

[ACP/21/003/23 - ACP-UE 2104/23]

The Council approved the outcome of proceedings of the 45th session of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers.

ITEM 3

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

- **Information on the activities of the Assembly in 2023**
- **Adoption of a report to the Joint Parliamentary Assembly**

[ACP/21/005/23 - ACP-UE 2108/23]

The Council took note of the information on the activities of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2023 and adopted the report on its activities in 2023 to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly as presented.

ITEM 4

DENOMINATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

[ACP/22/003/23 - ACP-UE 2107/23]

The Council agreed to the denominations set out in document ACP/22/003/23 - ACP-UE 2107/23.

"B" ITEMS

ITEM 5

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU-OACPS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

- Exchange of views

Both sides expressed commitment to the effective and timely implementation of the Samoa Agreement and agreed to give priority to the work on rules of procedure of the future joint institutions.

The EU side referred to the state-of-play of its reflection process on the implementation of specific aspects of the agreement, including a future stakeholders' engagement mechanism.

The ACP side proposed to take lessons learnt from the implementation of the Cotonou Agreement to ensure effective implementation of the new Agreement, namely as regards development finance, trade-related regulations, as well as the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

The Council welcomed the putting into effect of the Samoa Agreement and the commitment of the two sides to remain engaged on its effective implementation as soon as possible, and their agreement to complete the work on the rules of procedure of the future joint institutions with a view to their adoption in 2024.

ITEM 6

EU-OACPS COOPERATION IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, NOTABLY WITH A VIEW TO THE UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (COP28)

- **Exchange of views**
- **Delegation of powers to the ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors to adopt a joint OACPS-EU declaration for COP28**

Both sides agreed on the importance of continued cooperation in global fora on climate change. They presented the state-of-play of their preparation, as well as their position for COP28, namely regarding mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, energy transition, climate finance. They agreed to delegate powers to the ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors to adopt a joint OACPS-EU declaration for COP28 to demonstrate their common unwavering commitment to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Both sides expressed their full support to the aims of the Summit of the Future and an ambitious Pact for the Future. They agreed that more efforts and resources are needed for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. They also expressed their commitment to the reform of the global financial architecture.

Both sides agreed on the importance of intensification of cooperation in global fora. The OACPS side reiterated its suggestion to formalise the modalities for cooperation in international fora, based on its proposal presented at the previous meeting.

The Council encouraged the Parties to continue their efforts to increase and strengthen their cooperation in international fora and invited both sides to continue exploring new areas for joint action and activity and cooperating in international fora under the renewed and reinforced framework provided by the Samoa Agreement. The Council mandated the Parties to work on the establishment of appropriate operational modalities for effective cooperation and coordination at the international level with a view to identifying common ground on strategic themes and to join forces on issues of mutual and global interest to drive global action forward.

The Council invited the EU and OACPS States to press for more climate ambition and full implementation of pledges and commitments at COP28. In accordance with Article 15(4) of the Cotonou Agreement, the Council delegated powers to the ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors to adopt a joint Statement on and with a view to COP28.

The Council invited the two sides to explore opportunities of joint positioning for the Summit of the Future.

ITEM 7

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(none).
