



Council of the  
European Union

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Eingelangt am 16/07/24

Brussels, 16 July 2024  
(OR. fr)

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ACP 50  
COAFR 168  
RELEX 635  
WTO 68  
UD 89

## LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the EPA Committee established under the interim agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Central Africa Party, of the other part, as regards the adoption of the Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation

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**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2024/...**

**of ...**

**on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the EPA Committee  
established under the interim agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement  
between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part,  
and the Central Africa Party, of the other part,  
as regards the adoption of the Protocol  
concerning the definition of the concept of ‘originating products’  
and methods of administrative cooperation**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular  
Article 207(4), first subparagraph, in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The interim agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Central Africa Party, of the other part<sup>1</sup> ('the Agreement'), was signed by the Union pursuant to Council Decision 2009/152/EC<sup>2</sup> and has been applied on a provisional basis by Cameroon since 4 August 2014.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 13(2) of the Agreement, the EPA Committee may adopt a reciprocal common regime governing the rules of origin.
- (3) In accordance with Article 13(2) and Article 108 of the Agreement, the reciprocal common regime governing the rules of origin is to be annexed to the Agreement in the form of a Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation (the 'Protocol') and is to form an integral part thereof.
- (4) At its annual meeting in 2024 or by written procedure, the EPA Committee is to adopt a decision as regards the Protocol.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 57, 28.2.2009, p. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Council Decision 2009/152/EC of 20 November 2008 on the signature and provisional application of the interim agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Central Africa Party, of the other part (OJ L 57, 28.2.2009, p. 1).

- (5) The Protocol takes into account the most recent developments in order to provide more flexible and simpler rules of origin, with a view to facilitating trade for economic operators and optimising the use of the preferential treatment provided for in the Agreement.
- (6) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on the Union's behalf in the EPA Committee, as that decision will be binding on the Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

### *Article 1*

The position to be taken on behalf of the Union in the next annual meeting of the EPA Committee established under the interim agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Central Africa Party, of the other part, as regards the adoption of a decision of the EPA Committee on the Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of ‘originating products’ and methods of administrative cooperation, shall be based on the draft decision of the EPA Committee attached to this Decision.

### *Article 2*

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

Done at ..., ...

*For the Council*

*The President*

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