



**Council of the
European Union**

**Brussels, 27 October 2020
(OR. en)**

11669/20

Interinstitutional File:
2020/0263 (NLE)
2020/0121 (NLE)

**ACP 110
WTO 238
COASI 117
RELEX 732**

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: Agreement amending the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part, as regards the accessions of the Independent State of Samoa and Solomon Islands, and future accessions of other Pacific Island States

AGREEMENT
AMENDING THE INTERIM PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, OF THE ONE PART,
AND THE PACIFIC STATES, OF THE OTHER PART,
AS REGARDS THE ACCESSIONS
OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA AND SOLOMON ISLANDS,
AND FUTURE ACCESSIONS OF OTHER PACIFIC ISLAND STATES

AMD/EU/PAC/en 1

THE EUROPEAN UNION,

of the one part, and

THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI (hereinafter referred to as "Fiji"),

THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA (hereinafter referred to as "Papua New Guinea"),

THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA (hereinafter referred to as "Samoa"), and

SOLOMON ISLANDS (hereinafter referred to as "Solomon Islands"),

hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Pacific States",

of the other part,

HAVING REGARD TO the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part¹ (hereinafter referred to as the "Interim Partnership Agreement"), which establishes a framework for an economic partnership agreement, and which was signed at London on 30 July 2009 and at Copenhagen on 11 December 2009, and has been provisionally applied between the European Union and Papua New Guinea since 20 December 2009 and between the European Union, Papua New Guinea and Fiji since 28 July 2014;

¹ OJEU L 272, 16.10.2009, p. 2.

HAVING REGARD TO the fact that Article 80 of the Interim Partnership Agreement provides that other Pacific Island States may accede to the Agreement on the basis of the submission of a GATT 1994 Article XXIV compliant market access offer;

HAVING REGARD TO the fact that, by depositing their acts of accession, Samoa and Solomon Islands acceded to the Interim Partnership Agreement on 21 December 2018 and 7 May 2020, respectively, and thus have become Contracting Parties to the Agreement;

HAVING REGARD TO the fact that the Interim Partnership Agreement applies provisionally between the European Union and Samoa as of 31 December 2018, and between the European Union and Solomon Islands as of 17 May 2020;

HAVING REGARD TO the recommendation of 4 October 2019 of the Trade Committee established by the Interim Partnership Agreement concerning the amendments to be made thereto in order to take account of the accession of Pacific Island States to the Interim Partnership Agreement;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the implementation of Interim Partnership Agreement, and desiring to work together towards the achievement of the objectives of the Agreement;

DESIRING to facilitate the accession of other Pacific Island States to the Interim Partnership Agreement and to extend to them the benefits arising from the Agreement,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Amendments to the Interim Partnership Agreement

The Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part, is amended as follows:

1. In Article 70, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

"1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the "Contracting Parties" shall be the European Community, referred to as the "EC Party", on the one part, and Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Fiji, the Independent State of Samoa and Solomon Islands, referred to as the "Pacific States", on the other part."

2. In Article 80, the following paragraph is added:

"3. The Trade Committee may decide on any amendment to this Agreement that might be necessary following the accession of another Pacific Island State."

ARTICLE 2

Entry into force

1. This Agreement shall enter into force under the same conditions as provided for in Article 76(1) of the Interim Partnership Agreement.

2. This Agreement shall be applied provisionally under the same conditions as provided for in Article 76(2) of the Interim Partnership Agreement.

ARTICLE 3

Authentic texts

This Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, duly authorised to this effect, have signed this Agreement.

Done at [city] on [date].

For the European Union

For the Republic of Fiji

For the Independent State of Papua New Guinea

For the Independent State of Samoa

For Solomon Islands