



Council of the
European Union

040377/EU XXVII. GP
Eingelangt am 20/11/20

Brussels, 20 November 2020
(OR. en)

13204/20

DEVGEN 175
FIN 882
ACP 147
RELEX 911
COAFR 337

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| On: | 20 November 2020 |
| To: | Delegations |

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| No. prev. doc.: | 12572/20 |
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| Subject: | European Court of Auditors' Special Report No. 14/2020 on EU development aid to Kenya - Council conclusions (20 November 2020) |
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Delegations will find in the annex the Council conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No. 14/2020 on EU development aid to Kenya, approved by written procedure on 20 November 2020.

European Court of Auditors' Special Report No. 14/2020 on EU development aid to Kenya
Council conclusions

Context

1. The Council thanks the European Court of Auditors for their Special Report n°14/2020. The Council notes that the Court has used its analysis of EU development aid to Kenya to identify key challenges for development effectiveness. The Council focuses its conclusions on Kenya.

Commitments

2. The Council reiterates its commitment to use EU development aid to contribute to achieving the SDGs / 2030 Agenda and to poverty eradication. Guiding principles are leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first. The Council supports all efforts to achieve these objectives, in accordance with the Paris Agreement.
3. The Council reiterates that the successful promotion of sustainable development and poverty eradication necessitates democratic ownership by partner countries. The Council underlines the importance of aligning EU development aid with Kenyan development needs and priorities.
4. The Council acknowledges that the Court's analysis contains useful lessons learned for EU development cooperation. The Commission, the EEAS and Member States should use them to improve the impact of EU development cooperation; also through joint engagement as Team Europe.

Actions

5. The Council welcomes the Court's conclusion that EU projects under the 10th EDF generally delivered their expected results. The Commission and the EEAS should pursue their efforts so that EU aid contributes to poverty eradication and climate resilience.

6. The Council welcomes the Court's conclusion that EU support for food security and climate resilience has effectively contributed to reduction of hunger in Kenya. The Council encourages efforts to support smallholder agriculture and sustainable agro-food systems in Kenya.
7. The Council acknowledges the Court's observation that EU support to economic development has not generated sufficiently measureable effects. The Council encourages the Commission and the EEAS to continue prioritising poverty eradication and sustainable development in Kenya. Efforts should focus on fostering an appropriate investment climate and value chains, and on promoting sustainable growth, decent jobs and vocational training opportunities as well as sustainable livelihoods.
8. The Council welcomes the Court's observation that supporting the rule of law, the fight against corruption, good governance and public finance management in Kenya is very important. The Commission, the EEAS and Member States are encouraged to continue their efforts in this regard.
9. The Council notes the Court's analysis of the performance criteria, allocation formula and process used to allocate EU funding to particular partner countries under the 11th EDF. The Council notes the Court's recommendation regarding a clear link between financial allocations and country performance as well as government commitment in Kenya. The Council invites the Commission, the EEAS and Member States to explore how Kenya's needs, capacities, commitments and performance can be better taken into account when deciding on financial allocations.
10. The Council acknowledges the Court's proposal to increase the EU's aid effectiveness by better focusing EU support to Kenya in some fields of intervention. The Council calls upon the Commission, the EEAS and Member States to take this recommendation into account during the upcoming programming exercise – including when it comes to possible future Joint Programming and Team Europe Initiatives in Kenya, in an inclusive manner.
11. The Council notes the Court's observation that donor coordination in Kenya could be improved to increase development effectiveness. The Council invites the Commission, the EEAS and the Member States to further improve their efforts.

Impacts

12. The Council takes note of the Court's observation that it is difficult to measure the specific impacts some EU projects have on Kenya's overall development trajectory. Whilst highlighting that measuring the contribution to sustainable development and eradicating poverty is a complex challenge, the Council invites the Commission, the EEAS and Member States to jointly identify key areas where the EU could have the greatest impact and added value – both in the short and in the long term – and to align future programmes accordingly, including when jointly designing Team Europe Initiatives.
 13. The Council calls on the Commission, the EEAS and Member States to design and implement jointly comprehensive approaches aimed at maximising positive development impacts in Kenya; together with relevant Kenyan partners.
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