



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 16 December 2019
(OR. en)

14900/19

ACP 147
WTO 338
RELEX 1135

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: DECISION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL authorising the European Commission to negotiate, on behalf of the Member States, Economic Partnership Agreements between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and regions, of the other part, to the extent that they fall within the competences of the Member States

**DECISION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES,
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL**

of ...

**authorising the European Commission to negotiate,
on behalf of the Member States, Economic Partnership Agreements between
the European Union and its Member States, of the one part,
and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and regions, of the other part,
to the extent that they fall within the competences of the Member States**

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

Whereas:

- (1) On 17 June 2002, the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate Economic Partnership Agreements with the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and regions, and adopted directives for those negotiations.
- (2) The Commission should be authorised to negotiate, on behalf of the Member States, Economic Partnership Agreements between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and regions, of the other part, to the extent that they fall within the competences of the Member States, on the basis of amended negotiating directives,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States hereby authorise the Commission to negotiate, on behalf of the Member States, Economic Partnership Agreements between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and regions, of the other part, to the extent that they fall within the competences of the Member States.
2. The negotiations shall be conducted on the basis, where applicable, of the negotiating directives set out in the addendum to Council Decision (EU) 2019/...¹⁺.

Article 2

Article 1 shall be without prejudice to future decisions of the Member States in relation to the designation of their representatives on matters that fall within their competences.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2019/... of ... amending the negotiating directives for the negotiation of Economic Partnership Agreements with the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and regions, to the extent that they fall within the competence of the Union (OJ ..., p. ...).

⁺ OJ: please insert the reference number of the document contained in ST 14899/19 in the text and complete the corresponding footnote.

Article 3

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the ACP Working Party. The Trade Policy Committee shall be associated on specific trade-related matters.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

*For the representatives
of the governments of the Member States
The President*
