ACP-EU COTONOU AGREEMENT

AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC GROUP OF STATES

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 24 June 2011

ACP-UE 2117/11

COVER NOTE

from:	Secretary-General of the ACP States
to:	The EU Co-Secretary of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers
date of receipt:	14 June 2011
Subject:	Decisions and resolutions of the 93rd session of the ACP Council of Ministers, Brussels 26 - 29 May 2011

Delegations will find attached decisions and resolutions adopted at the 93rd session of the ACP Council of Ministers on 26 - 29 May 2011.

DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE

93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

HELD IN BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)

FROM 26th TO 29 MAY 2011

SUMMARY

DECISIONS

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DECISION No.1/XCIII/11

OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD IN BRUSSELS (BELGIUM), FROM 26th TO 29th MAY 2011

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS (EPAs) AND OTHER TRADE MATTERS

The ACP Council of Ministers

- Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, from 26 to 29 May 2011;
- **A. RECALLING** the objectives contained in the Georgetown Agreement and the Cotonou Partnership Agreement;
- **B. RECALLING** its previous decisions, declarations and resolutions on the Economic Partnership Agreements;
- **C. HAVING REGARD** to the oral and written reports of the ACP regional EPA configurations on the state of play of the EPA process;
- **D. HAVING REGARD** to the report of the Committee of Ambassadors [Document ACP/26/036/11 Rev.1] and the annexed Note on ACP-EU Trade Cooperation Subcommittee [Document ACP/61/030/11] which cover EPAs, other trade issues and the High Level Consultations on Trade Preferences;
- **E. HAVING REGARD** to the Secretariat Note on the outcome of the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Trade Committee (JMTC) held in Brussels on 20 and 21 October 2010, [Document ACP/61/061/10];
- **F. HAVING REGARD** to the European Commission's communication entitled "Trade, Growth and World Affairs trade policy as a core component of EU's 2020 strategy" of 9 November 2010, as a blueprint for EU's trade policy to help revitalize Europe's economy;
- **G. HAVING REGARD** to the Istanbul Declaration on Renewed and Strengthened Partnership for the development of Least Developed Countries (LDCs); and Programme of Action for the decade 2011 2020;

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- Η. **HAVING REGARD** to the uncertainty surrounding the conclusion of the WTO Doha Round negotiations, which increases the pressure to conclude more bilateral trade deals:
- I. WHEREAS for all ACP regions, including the CARIFORUM region which is the only region that has concluded a full EPA, progress in the EPA process has been slow and for regions that are still negotiating, areas of divergences have not been substantially narrowed:
- J. **REITERATING** that outstanding issues, including MFN clause, substantially all trade, regional levies, standstill clause, export taxes, development cooperation, definition of parties and non-execution clause must be addressed and resolved;
- K. WHEREAS the European Commission has stated that it has adopted an approach that seeks to enhance dialogue and mutual trust; renew the commitment of the parties to the EPAs as tools to foster development, regional integration and cooperation through trade; conclude agreements tailored to regional development needs; work towards regional aid for trade packages and a review of current markets access, under Market Access Regulation (MAR) 1528/07;
- **CONCERNED** that a differentiated approach may undermine current regional L. integration efforts and processes, and therefore emphasizing the need for measures that foster the unity and solidarity of ACP States both at the regional and all-ACP levels;
- **REITERATING** that the completion of the negotiations of the EPAs should not be М. dictated by timelines but by substance and that any review of the MAR should take account of the needs and priorities of the EPA regions;
- WHEREAS the European Commission has recently concluded or is negotiating N. bilateral free trade agreements with countries that compete with ACP exporters on the EC market including Korea, India, Malaysia, Singapore, Mercusor (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela, Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia, Peru and Columbia);
- **CONCERNED** that the implementation of the EU future trade policy including the 0. conclusion of bilateral free trade agreements may impact negatively on ACP economies and seriously erode the preferences which ACP States enjoy under the EPAs and GSP Scheme;
- P. **CONSIDERING** that in the circumstances it could be necessary to seek a renegotiation of affected provisions and put in place remedial measures;

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- **NOTING** the proposals on the revision of the EU GSP Scheme to apply from 2014 -0. announced by the European Commission on 10 May 2011 and recognizing its negative impact, particularly on some non-LDC ACP States;
- NOTING the significantly enhanced role and responsibility of the European R. Parliament in decision taking as provided in the Lisbon Treaty;
- S. **NOTING** the commendable efforts of the Secretary-General to explore possible ways out of the impasse in the EPA negotiations by, inter alia, convening the high level consultations on trade preferences;
- T. **DESIROUS** of ensuring that once concluded and implemented, EPAs will contribute to speeding up the sustainable development of ACP States and strengthening regional integration;

HEREBY DECIDES TO:

- 1. **Urge** the European Commission to inject genuine flexibility into the EPA process so that outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved;
- 2. **Call** for the convening of the Joint Ministerial Trade Committee meeting before the end of 2011, in order to monitor, review and address developments in the EPA process as well as other multilateral and bilateral trade matters of interest and concern to the ACP States;
- 3. **Urge** the European Commission when reviewing its market access offers, to ensure that, pending conclusion and signature of comprehensive EPAs, ACP States that have initialed or signed the interim EPAs should continue to benefit from preferential market access so as to avoid trade disruption;
- 4. **Urge** the European Commission when pursuing the EPA process to take account of and give precedence to developments in ACP regions such as the negotiation of a Tripartite FTA for the whole of Eastern and Southern Africa;
- 5. **Insist** that ACP States, and LDCs in particular, should not be expected to take on onerous commitments beyond their capacity and that their levels of development must be taken into account;
- 6. Call on the European Commission, its, Member States and the European Parliament to significantly review the EC's proposal on GSP in order to ensure coherence between trade and development and in this respect, strongly urge the EC to include criteria other than GNI per capita to be taken into account to determine eligibility, particularly for non-LDCs;

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- 7. **Request** the EC to grant GSP EBA facility, as a market access offer, to ACP regions, whose majority members are LDCs, upon their request, as this is important for regional integration;
- 8. **Call** on the European Commission to jointly conduct studies with the ACP Group to assess the impact of the future EU trade policies on ACP economies as well as on EU's conclusion of bilateral free trade agreements with third countries; and that the outcome of the studies should recommend appropriate policy responses that the ACP States should take;
- 9. Invite the Committee of Ambassadors and the European Commission to consider establishing a joint ACP-EU Working Group on LDCs, in order to regularly monitor and consult on the implementation of the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the decade 2011 – 2020 in support of ACP LDCs;
- **Take note** of the revised EU GSP rules of origin and EU proposals on EPA rules 10. of origin, and in this regard, mandate the Committee of Ambassadors to convene a meeting of ACP Experts on rules of origin to further study the implications of these new schemes;
- 11. **Encourage** ACP EPA configurations to meet as necessary in order to share information and experiences in the negotiation of outstanding issues and the implementation of interim and full EPAs;
- **12.** Mandate the Secretary-General and ACP Committee of Ambassadors to engage the various committees of the European Parliament to seek support in moderating the European Commission's positions in the EPA negotiations. Existing forums such as the Joint Parliamentary Assembly should also be used optimally in this regard.
- **Welcome and support** the idea to present to the G20, a proposal for a trade **13.** preference arrangement that will facilitate increased manufacturing possibilities for ACP States. In this regard, invite the ACP Ministerial Trade Committee and other relevant organizations, including the Africa Union Commission and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), to pursue this matter in the appropriate forums

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Done in Brussels on 30 May 2011

Honourable Mrs. Dédé Ahoéfa Ekoue,

Minister reporting to the President of the Republic of Togo

Responsible for Town, Country Planning and Development

President of the ACP Council of Ministers

DECISION No.2/XCIII/11 OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, FROM 26th TO 29th MAY 2011

ACQUISITION OF A NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE ACP GROUP

The ACP Council of Ministers,

- Meeting in Belgium (Brussels) from 26th to 29th May 2011;

CONSIDERING the dilapidated nature of the ACP House, the increase in the ACP Group's activities and the lack of both office space and meetings rooms in the current ACP building;

RECALLING Decision No. 5/LI/90 of 30 November 1990 adopted at its 51st session mandating the Committee of Ambassadors to adopt the relevant measures for the acquisition of a more adequate building to serve as a permanent seat for the ACP Group of States;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the recent meeting of the Troika of the Committee of Ambassadors and the Chairman of the Working Group on the Future Perspectives of the ACP Group and the discussions with the Belgian authorities and EU Development Commissioner to support the Acquisition of a New ACP House;

HEREBY DECIDES TO:

Reaffirm its previous decision to purchase a new ACP House and mandate the Committee of Ambassadors to negotiate with the European Commission and the Belgium authorities in order to secure the best possible deal and submit a report to the next meeting of the Council of Ministers;

Done in Brussels, 30 May 2011

Honourable Mrs. Dédé Ahoéfa Ekoue,

Minister reporting to the President of the

Republic of Togo

Responsible for Town, Country Planning and Development

President of the ACP Council of Ministers

DECISION No.3/XCIII/11

OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, FROM 26th TO 29th MAY 2011

DEVELOPMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES SECTOR

The ACP Council of Ministers,

Meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 26 to 29 May 2011,

HAVING REGARD TO the Second revision of the Cotonou Agreement, as signed on 22nd June 2010;

ACKNOWLEDGING the main outcomes of the First ACP Ministerial Meeting on the Development of the Mineral Resources held on 15 December 2010, namely, the Recommendations from the Ministerial Meeting [ACP/89/007/10, FINAL], and the Brussels Declaration on the Sustainable Development and Management of the Mineral Resource Industry of the ACP States [ACP/89/008/10, FINAL];

CONSIDERING the report of the Committee of Ambassadors to the 93rd Session of the ACP Council of Ministers;

TAKING NOTE of the progress achieved in the elaboration of the proposed ACP Framework of Action for the Mineral Resources Sector;

UNDERSCORING the potential that the Mineral resources sector has for the socio-economic development of ACP States:

HEREBY DECIDES TO:

- **a. Take note** of the Brussels Declaration on the Sustainable Development and Management of the Mineral Resource Industry of the ACP States [ACP/89/008/10, FINAL];
- **b. Endorse** the recommendations of the First ACP Ministerial Meeting on the Development of Mineral Resources [ACP/89/007/10, FINAL];
- **c. Mandate** the Committee of Ambassadors to endorse the "all ACP Framework for the development of the Mineral Resources Sector", as elaborated by the Secretariat, in collaboration with Focal points;
- **d. Mandate** the Committee of Ambassadors to seek funding support for the ACP Mineral Resources sector, from various sources, including the 10th EDF resources;
- **e. Mandate** the ACP Secretariat, under the guidance of the Committee of Ambassadors to take the necessary measures, with a view to implementing the proposed ACP Framework of Action for the Mineral Resources Sector.

Done in Brussels, 30 May 2011

Honourable Mrs. Dédé Ahoéfa Ekoue,

Minister reporting to the President of the

Republic of Togo

Responsible for Town, Country Planning and Development

President of the ACP Council of Ministers

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DECISION No.4/XCIII/11

OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, FROM 26th TO 29th MAY 2011

DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ACP TRADE, INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT BANK

The ACP Council of Ministers

- Meeting in Brussels (Belgium), from 26 to 29 May 2011;
- **A. RECALLING** the objectives contained in the Georgetown agreement and the Cotonou Partnership Agreement;
- **B. RECALLING** the Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in Montego Bay, Jamaica, in July 1980, where a Resolution was taken to draw up a framework for the creation of an ACP Bank to promote trade, investment and development among our member countries;
- **C. CONSIDERING** also the Council of Ministers' Harare Declaration of 17-18 October 1985 reaffirming the urgent need for an ACP banking and trade institution;
- **D. CONSIDERING** the acute financing needs of our member countries, and in particular, the difficulty of our private sector in accessing the much-needed credit from international capital markets to promote Intra-ACP trade and investments;

HEREBY DECIDES TO:

- **a. Mandate** the Secretariat to prepare a report together with a set of practical recommendations for the establishment of an ACP trade, investment and development bank;
- **b. Mandate** the Secretariat to present the recommendations through the Committee of Ambassadors to the 94th Ministerial Council meeting.

Done in Brussels, 30 May 2011

Honourable Mrs. Dédé Ahoéfa Ekoue,

Minister reporting to the President of the

Republic of Togo

Responsible for Town, Country Planning and Development

President of the ACP Council of Ministers

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION

OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS **HELD IN BRUSSELS (BELGIUM) FROM 26 TO 29 MAY 2011**

BANANAS

The ACP Council of Ministers,

- meeting in Brussels, (Belgium), from 26th to 29th May 2011,
- HAVING REGARD TO the Resolution on Bananas adopted by the 91st session of the ACP Α. Council of Ministers held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 17 to 19 June 2010;
- В. HAVING REGARD TO the Geneva Agreement on Trade in Bananas concluded in Geneva on 15 December 2009 by the European Union (EU) with some Latin American countries and with the United States of America;
- HAVING REGARD ALSO TO the Declaration on Bananas adopted by the Joint ACP-EU Parliamentary Assembly, in Tenerife, Spain, on 1 April 2010;
- D. HAVING REGARD TO the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) Resolution on post-Copenhagen: technology transfer, new technologies and technical capacity building in the ACP countries, adopted in Kinshasa in December 2010;
- E. **EMPHASISING** that the BAM is an integral part of the December 2009 package which was accepted by the ACP Group;
- F. **RECALLING** the letter sent to the ACP Spokesperson on Bananas on 15 December 2009 by the EU Commissioners for Trade and Development, informing of the setting up of Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM), on the sole condition that the ACP would not oppose the certification of the EU's new banana tariff in the World Trade Organisation (WTO);
- **NOTING** the European Commission's (EC) final decision to allocate only €190 million to the BAM, with a possible increase to €200 million, as the maximum commitment under the current financial perspective ending 2013, and the legislative proposal sent to that effect by the European Commission to the European Parliament and Council, on 17 March 2010;
- Н. **RECALLING** that since the commencement of discussion to set up the accompanying measures for the ACP banana sector, the ACP Group has repeatedly requested the frontloading of pledged resources and swift disbursment through transparent procedures to facilitate sufficently early intervention for adjustment, compensation and investment;

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- I. RECALLING ALSO that the timeframe for the implementation of the BAM is a four (4)-year period (2010-2013) as confirmed in the letter received from EU Commissioners for Development and Trade, in the context of the Geneva Agreement on Bananas of December 2009;
- J. **DEEPLY CONCERNED** that eighteen (18) months after the initialing of the Geneva Agreement, the BAM has still not been approved and that even if it is approved now, given the stringent disbursement requirements, ACP Banana producing States are not likely to be able to fully absorb the funds by 2013;
- **K. RECALLING** that in the framework of the implementation of the BAM, it was agreed that an initial envelope of € 75 million would be made available for the first year;
- **L. ACKNOWLEDGING** the proposal in the draft BAM regulation to conduct an evaluation to assess progress and the results attained eighteen (18) months prior to the end date of the programme and decide on appropriate additional measures to be implemented;
- M. **DEEPLY DISMAYED** that the delay in the approval of the BAM is due only to a procedural matter relating to amendments to Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI);
- **N. CONCERNED** by the threat that this delay poses for the livelihood of thousands of peoples in both African and Caribbean Banana producing States;
- O. ACKNOWLEDGING the tripartite ongoing discussion among the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union on how to rectify the matter and expressing the hope that a resolution will be found as soon as possible;
- **P. RECALLING** that so far, the ACP Group has fulfilled all its commitments in terms of the conditions set at the time when the Geneva Agreement on Trade in Bananas was reached;
- **Q. NOTING** that this Geneva Agreement on Trade in Bananas better enables the Commission to negotiate bilateral FTAs with MFN countries which are also parties to the Agreement and the most direct competitors of ACP states in the banana market;
 - Requests that the European Union, in the framework of the ongoing tripartite
 discussion between the Council and the European Parliament, with the
 Commission acting as facilitator, set aside considerations which are not
 connected to the substance of the BAM in order to ensure that the BAM is
 approved without delay;
 - Invites the European Union, in view of the delay, to consider a rapid disbursement of the first tranche of the BAM of €75 million which was agreed, with easy access and implementation modalities;

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- 3. **Calls upon** the European Commission to commit to a four (4) year implementation of the BAM, regardless of its start date;
- 4. **Urges** the European Commission to take into account the necessary institutional timeline and procedures as it prepares for the next tranches;
- 5. **Calls on** EU institutions to give the affected ACP states a sufficiently long adjustment period, and provide them with adequate accompanying measures, before the entry into force of any new agreement which could further erode any advantage provided or commitment made by the current trade regime under which ACP bananas are imported into the EU;
- 6. Requests the European Commission, the Council and the Parliament to make provisions for additional financial resources to support the Banana sector in ACP States in the framework of the next multi-annual financial framework post-2013 taking into account the tariff concessions granted by the EU to MFN countries for trade in Bananas in the various FTAs.
- 7. **Further requests** an immediate review of the support to the Banana sector in ACP states, before the deadline envisaged in the BAM in view of the fact that the extensive concessions made in FTAs with MFN countries now modify the delicate balance reached between the Geneva Agreement on Trade in Bananas and the context in which the current BAM was agreed
- 8. **Calls on** the European Commission to continue to consult with the ACP in a timely manner on the impact of bilateral trade agreements with third countries;
- 9. **Instructs** the President of the Council of Ministers to forward this Resolution to, the Council of the European Union, , the European Parliament, the EU Member States, the European Commission and the Director-General of the WTO.

Brussels, 30 May 2011

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RESOLUTION

OF THE 93rd SESSION OF THE ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD IN BRUSSELS (BELGIUM) FROM 26th TO 29th MAY 2011

SUGAR

The ACP Council of Ministers,

- meeting in Brussels, (Belgium), from 26th to 29th May 2011,
- **A. HAVING REGARD** to the Resolution on Sugar adopted by the 92nd session of the ACP Council of Ministers held in Brussels (Belgium), from 8 to 10 November 2010;
- **B. HAVING REGARD** to the European Commission's (EC) Regulation No.828/2009, which regulates the import of sugar into the European Union (EU) from the ACP States and other Least Developed Countries (LDCs) suppliers, with effect from 01 October 2009;
- **C. HAVING REGARD** to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) Resolution on *post-Copenhagen: technology transfer, new technologies and technical capacity building in the ACP countries, adopted in Kinshasa in December 2010;*
- **D. NOTING** that the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development has approved on 25 May 2011, a report on *CAP towards 2020: meeting the food, natural resources and territorial challenges of the future,* in which it is recommended that "the 2006 sugar market regime be extended at least to 2020 in it existing form";
- **E. NOTING ALSO** that the orientations envisaged for the post-2013 CAP include food security, management of natural resources, territorial management as well as management tools to ensure the production of quality products of the right quantity with safety nets to address both income and price stability;
- **F. NOTING FURTHER** the report of the First ACP Ministerial Committee on Sugar held on 27 May, 2011 contained in document ACP/63/014/11, and acknowledging the importance of the 12th ACP Ministerial Conference on Sugar to be held in Maputo, Mozambique, from 24 to 26 July 2011;
- **G. MINDFUL OF** the critical role that research and innovation play in ensuring competitiveness in agriculture as well as in improving food safety and food security;

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- H. **UNDERLYING** the contribution of the sugar sector to food and livelihood security, fight against climate change which are objectives currently being canvassed in the context of a reformed CAP;
- I. **RE-EMPHASISING** that the Accompanying Measures Support Programme for Sugar Protocol countries (AMSP) had been established primarily to assist ACP Member States in the context of the 36% price cut to develop a sustainable and competitive sugar cane industry and to successfully adapt to the post-2006 reform period;
- J. **NOTING** the organisation early this year, of regional seminars in the Caribbean and in Africa, with the view to assist Members to make full, effective and timely use of the funds allocated under the Accompanying Measures Support Programme (AMSP);
- K. **DISAPPOINTED** however that ACP Representatives in Brussels were not associated with the organisation of these seminars which could have assisted the ACP to collectively address issues of concern in terms of the implementation of the Multi-Annual Adaptation Strategies, and that no reports from these meetings have been made available;
- **RECALLING** that it is still essential to address constraints and difficulties encountered by L. countries in accessing the resources be addressed and that the funds earmarked under the AMSP be fully utilized instead of being forfeited; being given that the ACP States concerned have the capacity collectively to fully utilise the available resources;
- М. **NOTING** that the new situation created by the EU's negotiations of FTA's with third countries, the financial and economic crisis, the decline of the EURO and fluctuation in foreign exchange affecting the planned investment for successfully implementing the Multiannual Adaptation Strategies (MAAS) necessary for the restructuring and modernization of their sugar cane industries which continue to play an important multifunctional role, will necessitate the continuation of the AMSP beyond 2013;
- N. WHEREAS the second revised Cotonou Agreement, inter alia, provides that "the EU shall endeavour to pursue measures to overcome possible negative impacts of liberalisation, with a view to maintaining significant preferential access within the multilateral trading system for ACP States for as long as is feasible and to ensure that any unavoidable reduction in preference is phased in over as long a period as feasible";
- 0. WHEREAS in Declaration XXIII of the Second Revised Cotonou Agreement, the parties have recognised "that additional support could be necessary where greater liberalization of trade may lead to deeper alteration of market access conditions for ACP producers. That end, they agree to examine all necessary measures in order to maintain the competitive position of the ACP States in the EU market";
- Ρ. **NOTING** the lack of progress in the WTO negotiations since December 2009, in spite of a move by the Commission to unblock the situation:

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- **RECALLING** that the Geneva 2009 Banana trade agreement was accepted by the ACP O. Group only because it constitutes also a final solution for the negotiations on long standing preference and tropical products:
 - **1. Supports** the adoption, in the future CAP, of specific measures for income stabilisation of farmers, price volatility, food security, maintenance of the quota system for sugar, and the greening of the CAP in order to adapt to climate change;

2. Calls on the European Union and the European Commission:

- to ensure that, in the post-2013 Common Agricultural Policy, the ACP producers, along with EU beet-sugar producers, are provided (i) fair, stable and reasonably remunerative EU market prices; (ii) a guarantee and priority of access; (iii) longterm predictability with continued preference assured by adequate border measures and robust mechanisms for market management; and, (iv) a balanced market:
- **to ensure** that the new provisions of the revised Cotonou Agreement regarding the need to review support programmes such as the AMSP, with a view to deciding on appropriate additional measures to be implemented, is respected, in order to guarantee the EC's commitment to continue in this respect to support the ACP Commodity Sector, including sugar, beyond 2013; calls the EC, EU and EP to include a dedicated amount under Heading IV of the EU 2014-2020 Financial Perspectives;
- iii. to further support ACP Sugar supplying States with additional accompanying measures, to meet the challenges posed by preference erosion caused by the EU's global trade policy;
- iv. to consider measures to promote the transfer of technologies to ACP States to strengthen their innovation and Research and Development programs in the Sugar sector;
- to work together with the ACP Group in the WTO to ensure that the acquis, especially the December 2009 agreement on the treatment of preference erosion, be "multilateralised";
- **3.** Calls on the ACP Committee on Sugar to organize a two-day seminar in Brussels to examine all aspects of AMSP and MAAS implementation issues as this is crucial in view of the implementation of the second phase of the programme and with the to assist the ACP submission for the extension beyond 2013 of the AMSP through its inclusion in the EU 2014-2020 Financial Perspectives;

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- **4. Calls on the ACP Secretariat and the European Commission** to explore the possibilities, including during the mid-term review of the 10th EDF, to secure funds to operationalise the agreed objectives of the JPA Resolution on *post-Copenhagen:* technology transfer, new technologies and technical capacity building in the ACP countries, adopted in Kinshasa in December 2010;
- **5. Urges** the ACP States concerned to pay their arrears to the Special Fund to enable the group to undertake the awareness missions at the level of the EU institutions and other relevant bodies and stakeholders;
- **6. Instructs** the President of the Council of Ministers to forward this resolution to the European Commission, the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the Director-General of the WTO.

Brussels, 30 May 2011

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