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## I

*(Information)*

JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN  
THE MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC GROUP OF STATES OF THE ONE PART  
AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES OF THE OTHER PART

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 BRUSSELS

 (Belgium)
 

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**MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2001**

(2002/C 78/01)

*(The sitting opened at 2 p.m.)***Formal inaugural sitting**

In the presence of His Majesty Albert II, King of the Belgians, Mr Eddy Boutmans, President-in-Office of the EU Development Council and H.R.H. Prince Ulukalala Lavaka Ata, President-in-Office of the ACP Council (Tonga), the following addressed the Assembly: Mr John Corrie, EU Co-President, Mr Louis Serge Clair, ACP Co-President, and Mr Armand De Decker, President of the Belgian Senate.

The speakers all referred to the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 in the United States and the enormous consequences of the new situation on development countries.

*(The sitting adjourned at 3.30 p.m. and resumed at 4 p.m.)*

IN THE CHAIR: Mr CORRIE and Mr CLAIR

Co-Presidents

**Sitting of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly****1. Composition of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly**

Mr Corrie, Co-President, announced that the list of members of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, as forwarded by the authorities of the ACP States and the President of the European Parliament, would be annexed to the minutes.

**2. Election of the Bureau of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly**

Mr Corrie, Co-President, announced that he had received the following proposals pursuant to Article 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly:

**ACP members**

ACP Co-President:

Mr Louis Serge Clair (Mauritius)

ACP Vice-Presidents:

Angola  
Burundi  
Central African Republic  
Cook Islands  
Haiti  
Lesotho  
Madagascar  
Mauritania  
Mauritius  
Nigeria  
St Kitts and Nevis  
Solomon Islands

- to the motion for a resolution by the Working Group on the impact of sanctions and, in particular, of embargoes on the people of the countries on which such measures are imposed: Tuesday, 30 October at 3 p.m.
- to the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure: Tuesday, 30 October at 3 p.m.
- to compromise resolutions and other motions for resolutions to be put to the vote: Tuesday, 30 October at 6 p.m.

With the above modifications, the draft agenda was adopted.

### European members

European Co-President:

Mr John Corrie

European Vice-Presidents:

Mrs Junker  
Mr Van Hecke  
Mr Schwaiger  
Mrs Kinnoek  
Mr Mauro  
Mrs Carlotti  
Mr Novelli  
Mrs Dybkjær  
Mrs Lucas  
Mr Morillon  
Mr Martínez Martínez  
Mr Sylla

The Bureau, as set out above, was elected by acclamation.

### 3. Adoption of the draft agenda (APP/3222)

The Co-President announced that on Wednesday the session would adjourn for lunch at 12.15 p.m. and that work would resume at 2.15 p.m. with Item 18 — exchange of views with Commissioner Lamy.

The deadline for tabling compromise motions for resolution was fixed for Monday, 29 October at 7 p.m.

The deadline for tabling amendments was fixed as follows:

- to the motion for a resolution by the Working Group on the use of renewable energy sources in the ACP countries: Tuesday, 30 October at 10 a.m.
- to the General Report: Tuesday, 30 October at 11 a.m.

### 4. Approval of list of non-parliamentarian representatives of ACP States

Mr Corrie, Co-President, announced that he had received a list of 19 non-parliamentarian delegates from the authorities of the ACP States. Pursuant to Article 17(1) of the Partnership Agreement and Article 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, he proposed that these representatives be registered and their names be annexed to the minutes.

The Assembly agreed to this.

### 5. Substitutes

The Co-President announced the following substitutes: Bowis (for Andria), Désir (for Fruteau), Gemelli (for Bodrato), Klass (for Rack), dos Santos (for Soares) and Scarbonchi (for Darras).

### 6. Documents received

Mr Corrie, Co-President, announced that the following documents had been received:

- General report on the access to global communication for ACP countries as a contribution to sustainable development (ACP-EU 3288/01)

General Rapporteur: Mrs Karin Junker

- Report on the implementation of the new Partnership Agreement (Rules of Procedure) (ACP-EU 3072/01)

Rapporteur: Mr Edgar-Yves Monnou (Benin)

- Report on the use of renewable sources of energy in the ACP countries (ACP-EU 3057/A/01/fin and ACP-EU 3057/B/01/fin)

Rapporteur: Mr Anders Wijkman

- Report on the impact of sanctions and, in particular, of embargoes on the people of the countries on which such measures are imposed (ACP-EU 3201/A/01/fin and ACP-EU 3201/B/01/fin)

Rapporteur: Mr Richard L. Cheltenham (Barbados)

*Motions for resolutions submitted to the Joint Parliamentary Assembly by the Bureau pursuant to Art. 17(5)*

The Co-President informed members of the outcome of the Bureau's recommendations and invited the authors of motions for resolutions on the same subject to agree on a compromise text.

#### West Africa:

- by Mr Schwaiger, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on West Africa (APP/3241)
- by the following members: Carlotti and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the situation in West Africa (APP/3242)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on West Africa (APP/3243)
- by the following members: Isler Béguin, Maes, Schörling and Lucas, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, and Sylla, Vinci and Wurtz, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the situation in West Africa (APP/3244)

#### Central Africa:

- by the representative of Rwanda, on Central Africa (APP/3245)
- by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on the situation in the Great Lakes region (APP/3246)
- by the following members: Van Hecke, Ferrer, Berend, Khanbhai and Schwaiger, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on Central Africa (APP/3247)
- by the following members: Sauquillo and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the Great Lakes region (APP/3248)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on Central Africa (APP/3249)
- by the following members: Maes, Isler Béguin, Lucas and Schörling, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, and Sylla, Vinci and Sjöstedt, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on Central Africa (APP/3250)
- by Mr Andrews, on behalf of the UEN Group, on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (APP/3251)

#### Southern Africa:

- by Mr Cunha, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on Southern Africa (APP/3252)
- by the following members: Scheele and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the situation in Southern Africa (apart from Zimbabwe) (APP/3253)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on Southern Africa (APP/3254)
- by the following members: Schörling, Maes, Isler Béguin and Lucas, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, on Southern Africa (APP/3255)
- by the following members: Miranda, Sylla and Vinci, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on Southern Africa (APP/3256)
- by the representatives of Southern Africa (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe), on the situation in Zimbabwe (APP/3257)
- by Mrs Foster, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on Zimbabwe (APP/3258)
- by the following members: Kinnock and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on Zimbabwe (APP/3259)
- by Mr Andrews, on behalf of the UEN Group, on the situation in Angola (APP/3260)

#### East Africa:

- by the following members: Gemelli, Maij-Weggen, Mauro and Van Hecke, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on East Africa (APP/3261)
- by the following members: Imbeni and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the situation in East Africa (APP/3262)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on East Africa (APP/3263)
- by the following members: Lucas, Schörling, Isler Béguin and Maes, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, and Sylla, Vinci and Sjöstedt, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the situation in East Africa (APP/3264)

#### Caribbean:

- by the representatives of the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, on the crisis facing the Caribbean tourism industry (APP/3265)

- by the following members: Fernández Martín, Khanbhai and Ferrer, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on the Caribbean region (APP/3266)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the Caribbean (APP/3267)
- by Mrs Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the situation in Haiti (APP/3268)

#### Pacific:

- by the following members: Deva, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, and Kinnock and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the situation in the Pacific (APP/3269)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the situation in the Pacific region (APP/3270)
- by the representatives of Papua New Guinea, the Cook Islands and the Fiji Islands, on the situation in the Fiji islands (APP/3298)

#### Migration:

- by Mrs Maij-Weggen, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on migration (APP/3271)
- by the following members: Sauquillo, Karamanou and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, and Mr Davies, on behalf of the ANC, on migrations (APP/3272)
- by the following members: Schörling, Maes, Lucas and Isler Béguin, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, and Dybkjaer and van den Bos, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on migration (APP/3273)
- by the following members: Sylla, Miranda, Vinci, Sjöstedt and Wurtz, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on migration (APP/3274)

#### Food Security:

- by the representative of Namibia, on sustainable development of natural resources (APP/3275)
- by Mr Yohannes (Ethiopia), on food security (APP/3276)
- by the following members: Keppelhoff-Wiechert, Schnellhardt and Van Hecke, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on food security (APP/3277)
- by the following members: Junker and van den Berg, on behalf of the PSE Group, and Mr Davies, on behalf of the ANC, on food security (APP/3278)

- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on food security (APP/3279)
- by the following members: Lucas, Schörling, Maes and Isler Béguin, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, on food security (APP/3280)
- by the following members: Sjöstedt, Miranda, Wurtz and Vinci, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on food security (APP/3281)

#### Disabled and aged populations:

- by Mr Bowis, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on ageing populations and people living with disabilities (APP/3283)
- by the following members: Howitt and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Sylla, Vinci, Sjöstedt, Miranda and Wurtz, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the rights of disabled people and older people in ACP countries (APP/3284)

#### Gender issues:

- by the following members: Glase and Van Hecke, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on gender issues (APP/3285)
- by the following members: Junker and Gröner, on behalf of the PSE Group, on gender mainstreaming in ACP-EU cooperation (APP/3286)
- by Mrs Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on gender issues (APP/3287)
- by the following members: Isler Béguin, Schörling, Maes and Lucas, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, and Miranda and Sylla, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on gender issues (APP/3288)

#### AIDS:

- by the following members: Khanbhai, Van Hecke and Wijkman, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on HIV-AIDS (APP/3289)
- by the following members: Carlotti and Junker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on AIDS (APP/3290)
- by the following members: van den Bos and Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on AIDS (APP/3291)
- by the following members: Maes, Lucas, Schörling and Isler Béguin, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, on AIDS (APP/3292)

- by the following members: Miranda, Vinci, Sjöstedt, Wurtz and Sylla, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on AIDS (APP/3293)

#### WTO:

- by the members of the ACP Working Party on Rum — Barbados, the Dominican Republic, the Eastern Caribbean States, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago — on rum (APP/3282)
- by Mr Rijo (Dominican Republic), on free zones in less-developed countries and Annex VII to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on Subsidies and Compensatory Measures (APP/3294)
- by Mr Deva, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on WTO (APP/3295)
- by the representatives of Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland, on the special situation of BLNS countries in future trade negotiations (APP/3296)
- by the ACP States signatory to the Sugar Protocol, on sugar (APP/3299)

#### Terrorism:

- by the following members: Majj-Weggen and Van Hecke, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group, on the fight against terrorism (APP/3297)
- by the Mr Yohannes (Ethiopia) (APP/3300)

#### 7. Statement by Mr Eddy Boutmans, State Secretary for Development Cooperation (Belgium), President-in-Office of the EU Council

Mr Boutmans addressed the Assembly on behalf of the EU Council.

#### 8. Statement by H.R.H. Prince Ulukalala Lavaka Ata, President-in-Office of the ACP Council (Tonga)

H.R.H. Prince Ulukalala Lavaka Ata addressed the Assembly on behalf of the ACP Council.

#### 9. Question time to the Council

Four questions were put to the ACP Council.

H.R.H. Prince Ulukalala Lavaka Ata replied to the following questions and to supplementary questions by their authors:

- Question No. 1 by Mrs Kinnock, on Economic Partnership Agreements
- Question No. 2 by Mr Howitt, on the UN Global Fund against HIV/AIDS
- Question No. 3 by the following members: Lucas, Maes, Schörling and Isler Béguin, on the WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha
- Question No. 21 by Mr Bombete (Congo, Brazzaville), on the ratification of the Cotonou Agreement

19 questions were put to the EU Council.

Mr Boutmans, President-in-Office of the EU Council, replied to the following questions and to the supplementary questions put by authors:

- Question No. 7 by the following members: Maes, Lucas, Schörling and Isler Béguin, on the follow-up to the conferences on conflict prevention and the participation of civil society
- Question No. 4 by the representative of Malawi and Question No. 22 by Mr Bombete (Congo-Brazzaville), on the ratification of the Cotonou Agreement
- Question No. 5 by the representative of Zimbabwe, on political dialogue, would be answered in writing as the author was not present
- Question No. 11 by the following members: Lucas, Schörling, Isler Béguin and Maes, on the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, and Question No. 12 by Mrs Carlotti, on European Union support for the developing countries' claims in international trade negotiations
- Question No. 14 by Mr Van Hecke, on coherence between the development policies and the agricultural policies of the EU, and Question No. 19 by Mr Sardjoe, Mr Kruisland and Mr Sital (Suriname), on rice
- Question No. 6 by Mrs Majj-Weggen, on the arrest and imprisonment of Mr Yawovi Agboyibo, the Togolese opposition leader
- Question No. 20 by Mr Rijo (Dominican Republic), on restoring aid to the Republic of Haiti
- Question No. 23 by the following members: Schörling, Lucas, Maes and Isler Béguin, on Sudan

Due to lack of time it was decided that a written reply would be sent to the authors of the following questions:

- Question No. 18 by Mrs Kinnock, on children's rights
- Question No. 13 by Mr Andrews, on conditions for the exploitation of petrol resources

- Question No. 15 by Mrs Dybkjaer, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on 'blood' diamonds
- Question No. 16 by Mrs Ferrer, on diamond imports
- Question No. 8 by Mr Martínez Martínez, on the signing of the Cotonou Agreement
- Question No. 9 by the following members: Isler Béguin, Lucas, Schörling and Maes, on Cuba
- Question No. 10 by Mr Howitt, on possible admission of East Timor to the Cotonou Agreement
- Question No. 17 by Mr van den Bos, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the impact of terrorism on ACP countries

**10. The European Investment Bank (EIB) and the ACP-EU Partnership — Exchange of views with Mr Philippe Maystadt, Chairman of the EIB**

Mr Maystadt, Chairman of the EIB, made a statement informing the Assembly mainly on the possibilities of the new investment facility provided for in the Cotonou Agreement.

The following spoke: Bowis, Paraina (Madagascar), Laakitani (Niue), van den Berg, Khanbhai, Rijo (Dominican Republic), Mbuende (Namibia), Kaputin (Papua New Guinea), Guiness (Mauritius) and Abakaka (Chad)

Mr Maystadt replied to questions.

Mr Corrie thanked Mr Maystadt for his presence and for the interesting exchange of views with the members of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly.

*(The sitting closed at 7 p.m.)*

Louis Serge CLAIR and John CORRIE  
*Co-Presidents*

Jean-Robert GOULONGANA and Dietmar NICKEL  
*Co-Secretaries-General*

## MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF TUESDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2001

(2002/C 78/02)

(The sitting opened at 9.15 a.m.)

IN THE CHAIR: Mr CLAIR

*Co-President*

### 1. **Announcement by Mr Clair, Co-President**

The Co-President made an announcement about the inclusion of Zimbabwe in the compromise text for a motion for a resolution on Southern Africa. Three resolutions had been missed out and a corrigendum would be produced later in the day.

### 2. **Substitutes**

The Co-President announced the following substitutes: Bowis (for Andria), Désir (for Fruteau), Gemelli (for Bodrato), dos Santos (for Soares) and Scarbonchi (for Darras).

### 3. **Access to global communication for ACP countries as a contribution to sustainable development**

— **General Rapporteur: Mrs Karin Junker**

— **Presentation of report and exchange of views**

Mrs Junker, the general rapporteur, introduced her document on the subject.

The following spoke: Wijkman, Dybkjær, Segokgo (Botswana), Mbuende (Namibia), Guness (Mauritius) and Boureima (Niger).

Mrs Junker summed up.

### 4. **Statement by Mr Poul Nielson, EU Commissioner responsible for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid — Implementation of the Cotonou Agreement and the EDF**

Mr Nielson made a statement referring to the current state of EDF development cooperation in the global context and the prospects for the forthcoming ratification and full implementation of the Cotonou Agreement.

The following spoke: Maij-Weggen, Kinnock, Bombete (Congo), Bornito De Sousa (Angola) and Boureima (Niger).

Mr Nielson replied to questions.

A supplementary question was put by Mrs Kinnock.

Mr Nielson replied to the question.

### 5. **Question Time to the Commission**

19 questions were put to the Commission.

Mr Nielson replied to the following questions and to supplementary questions put by their authors:

— Question No. 15 by Mr van den Berg, on public disclosure of country strategy papers

— Question No. 20 by the representative of Nigeria, on access to development aid

— Question No. 2 by Mrs Kinnock, on the Cotonou Agreement

— Question No. 1 by Mr Davies, on the WCAR and the New African Initiative

— Question No.10 by Mrs Dybkjær, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the action plan for biotechnologies

— Question No. 14 by Mrs Carlotti, on financing of the Global Fund against AIDS

— Question No. 3 by Mr Martínez Martínez, on the signing of the Cotonou Agreement by Cuba

— Question No. 4 by Mrs Junker, on EU delegations in ACP countries

— Question No. 7 by Mr Van Hecke, put by Mrs Maij-Weggen, on the European attitude towards Sudan

- Question No. 9 by Mrs Majj-Weggen, on the implementation of the chocolate directive in the ACP countries
- Question No. 17 by Mr Rijo (Dominican Republic), on bananas, and Question No. 18 by Mr Sardjoe, Mr Kruisland and Mr Sital (Suriname), on bananas, were taken together
- Question No. 16 by Mr Howitt, on consultation with the ACP on the CSR Green Paper
- Question No. 13 by Mrs Ferrer, on non-structural measures in the field of human rights
- Question No. 8 by Mr Andrews, on the sale of arms destined for ACP countries
- Question No. 11 by Mr van den Bos, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the impact of terrorism on ACP countries
- Question No. 19 by Mr Bombete (Congo-Brazzaville), on hopes for justice and equity

The following questions would receive a written reply:

- Question No. 5 by Mr Vairinhos, on elections in Angola
- Question No. 12 by Mr Busk, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on child soldiers

#### 6. Report on the activities of the Economic and Social Partners

The following spoke: Baeza (on behalf of the Economic and Social Partners), Rose (representing ACP Civil Society Forum) and van den Berg.

*(The sitting adjourned at 12.35 p.m. and resumed at 3.05 p.m.)*

IN THE CHAIR: Mr CORRIE

*Co-President*

#### 7. Working group on the use of renewable sources of energy in the ACP countries

- **Chairman: Mr Darius Mbela (Kenya)**
- **Rapporteur: Mr Anders Wijkman**
- **Presentation of report (ACP-EU 3057/A/01/fin and ACP-EU 3057/B/01/fin)**

Mr Wijkman, rapporteur, presented his report.

The following spoke: Mbela (Kenya), chairman, Schnellhardt, Karamanou and Corrie.

Mr Wijkman summed up.

Mr Corrie announced that the vote would be taken on Thursday morning.

#### 8. Working group on the impact of sanctions and, in particular, of embargoes on the people of the countries on which such measures are imposed

- **Chairman: Mr Renzo Imbeni**
- **Rapporteur: Mr Richard L. Cheltenham (Barbados)**
- **Presentation of report (ACP-EU 3201/A/01/fin and ACP-EU 3201/B/01/fin)**

Mr Davies (South Africa), acting rapporteur, presented the report.

The following spoke: Berend, Martínez Martínez (acting chairman), Kisonga-Mazakala (DR of Congo), van den Bos, Corrie, Dabor (Sierra Leone) and Maes.

Mr Davies (South Africa), acting rapporteur, summed up.

#### 9. Urgent subjects relating to the situation in different countries or regions, pursuant to Article 7(1)(i)

*West Africa*

The following spoke: Schwaiger, Carlotti, Ould Guelaye (Mauritania), Natchaba (Togo), Maes, Diallo (Parliamentary Observer as ECOWAS representative), Sylla, Ngum (Gambia), Scarbonchi, Dabor (Sierra Leone), Thiam (Senegal) and Hamburger (Commission representative).

*Central Africa and Great Lakes Region*

The following spoke: Berend, Biruta (Rwanda), van den Berg, van den Bos, Kisonga-Mazakala (DR of Congo), Sauquillo Pérez del Arco, Khanbhai, Bowis, Hamburger (Commission representative), Maes, Mandeng (Cameroon), Mbuende (Namibia) and Kiraso Birungi (Uganda).

*Southern Africa*

The following spoke: Keppelhoff-Wiechert, Chindori-Chininga (Zimbabwe), Davies (South Africa), De Sousa (Angola), Kinnoek, Maes, Cunha, van den Berg, Mbuende (Namibia), Khanbhai, Abednico Bhebhe (Zimbabwe) Deva, Howitt and Hamburger (Commission representative).

*East Africa*

The following spoke: Gemelli, Guness (Mauritius), Schörling, Yohannes (Ethiopia), Bowis, Weldegiorgis (Eritrea), Khanbhai, Roble (Djibouti) and Hamburger (Commission representative).

*(The sitting closed at 7.30 p.m.)*

Louis Serge CLAIR and John CORRIE

*Co-Presidents*

Jean-Robert GOULONGANA and Dietmar NICKEL

*Co-Secretaries-General*

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**MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF WEDNESDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2001**

(2002/C 78/03)

*(The sitting opened at 9.15 a.m.)*

IN THE CHAIR: Mr CLAIR

*Co-President***1. Substitutes**

The Co-President announced the following substitutes: Bowis (for Andria), Désir (for Fruteau), Gemelli (for Bodrato), dos Santos (for Soares) and Scarbonchi (for Darras).

**2. Urgent subjects relating to the situation in different countries or regions, pursuant to Article 7(1)(i) (continued)***Caribbean*

The following spoke: Prince (Haiti), Rijo (Dominican Republic), Ferrer, Junker, Thomas (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Khanbhai, Humphrey (Barbados), Martínez Martínez, Gordon (Trinidad), Laurent (St Lucia), Condor (St Kitts and Nevis) and the Commission representative.

*Pacific*

The following spoke: Kaputin (Papua New Guinea), Deva, Kinnock, Mataitoga (Fiji) and the Commission representative.

**3. Fact-finding mission to the Sudan, 26 June-2 July 2001 — Presentation of report and consideration of a motion for a resolution**

The following spoke: Mauro, Robleh (Djibouti), Kinnock, Beda (Sudan) and Thiam (Senegal).

**4. Subjects and themes relating to development cooperation between the EU and ACP countries under the Partnership Agreement pursuant to Article 7(1)(ii) of the Rules of Procedure***AIDS*

The following spoke: Khanbhai, Kiraso-Birungi (Uganda), Wijkman, Mbela (Kenya), Carlotti, Sylla, Sandbaek, Junker, Bowis, Kinnock, Vairinhos, Sergokgo (Botswana), Maes and the Commission representative.

*Migration*

The following spoke: Majj-Weggen, Sauquillo Pérez del Arco, Schörling, Sylla and Karamanou.

*Food security*

The following spoke: Schnellhardt, Mbela (Kenya), van den Berg, Lucas, Keppelhoff-Wiechert and Yohannes (Ethiopia).

*Disabled and aged populations*

Mr Mwandha (National Union of Disabled Persons, Uganda) spoke.

*(The sitting adjourned at 12.20 p.m. and resumed at 2.20 p.m.)*

IN THE CHAIR: Mr CORRIE

*Co-President*

5. **The parliamentary dimension to international trade — Exchange of views with Commissioner Lamy on the oversight role of parliamentarians in relation to the WTO**

Mr Lamy addressed the Assembly, drawing particular attention to the involvement of parliaments and parliamentarians in

trade negotiations. He also informed the Assembly of the ongoing preparations for a new WTO round.

The following spoke: Laurent (St Lucia), Deva, Rijo (Dominican Republic), Désir, Paraina (Madagascar), Lucas, Mataitoga (Fiji), Cunha, Kinnock, Davies (South Africa), Kombo (Kenya) and Thiam (Senegal).

Mr Lamy replied to questions.

*(The sitting closed at 3.25 p.m.)*

Louis Serge CLAIR and John CORRIE

*Co-Presidents*

Jean-Robert GOULONGANA and Dietmar NICKEL

*Co-Secretaries-General*

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## MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THURSDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2001

(2002/C 78/04)

(The sitting opened at 9.20 a.m.)

IN THE CHAIR: Mr CORRIE

*Co-President*

### 1. **Substitutes**

The Co-President announced the following substitutes: Bowis (for Andria), Cushman (for Callanan), Coelho (for Morillon), Désir (for Fruteau), Gemelli (for Bodrato), Korhola (for Averoff) and Ribeiro e Castro (for Musumeci).

### 2. **Working group on the implementation of the new Partnership Agreement (Rules of Procedures)**

— **Chairman: Mr Rainer Wieland**

— **Rapporteur: Mr Edgar-Yves Monnou (Benin)**

The rapporteur, Mr Monnou, introduced the draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure and made proposals regarding the procedure for voting on proposed rule changes.

The following spoke: Lucas, Mbuende (Namibia), Maij-Weggen, Junker, Kumba (Congo- Brazzaville), McClay (Cook Islands), Wieland (Chairman), Martínez Martínez and Wijkman.

Mr Corrie, Co-President, explained the voting procedures. The amendments other than the amendments to Article 2 would be put to the vote. The amendments to Article 2 would be reconsidered by the Working Group and voted at the next session of the Assembly.

### 3. **Vote on the proposed modifications to the Rules of Procedure (APP/3072)**

All the modifications proposed by the Working Group which were not themselves subject to amendment were voted en bloc by separate houses and adopted by the ACP and the European members. The remaining amendments were voted separately, by separate houses, and the following were adopted: 3, 4, 5 and 6 identical, 11, 12 and 13.

The revised Rules of Procedure were voted by separate houses and adopted.

### 4. **General Report on access to global communication for ACP countries as a contribution to sustainable development (APP/3228)**

— **General Rapporteur: Mrs Karin Junker**

— **Vote**

Adopted with 39 amendments.

### 5. **Report of the working group on the use of renewable energy sources in the ACP States (APP/3057/A/fin)**

— **Rapporteur: Mr Anders Wijkman**

— **Vote**

Adopted with 6 amendments.

### 6. **Report of the working group on the impact of sanctions and, in particular, of embargoes on the people of the countries on which such measures are imposed (APP/3201/A/fin)**

— **Rapporteur: Mr Richard L. Cheltenham (Barbados)**

— **Vote**

Adopted with 2 amendments.

### 7. **Vote on motions for resolutions**

*West Africa*

APP/3306/COMP on West Africa: adopted by secret ballot, with 10 amendments.

*Central Africa*

APP/3307/COMP on Central Africa: adopted with 2 amendments.

*Southern Africa*

APP/3308/COMP on Southern Africa: adopted with 4 amendments.

APP/3317/COMP on Zimbabwe; vote by secret ballot, by separate houses: the ACP members voted against the motion for a resolution. The European members voted for the motion for a resolution. The motion for a resolution was consequently rejected.

APP/3257/COMP on Zimbabwe; vote by separate houses: the ACP members voted for the motion for a resolution, the EP members voted against the motion for a resolution. The motion for a resolution was consequently rejected.

*Sudan*

APP/3227 on Sudan: adopted with 17 amendments. Vote on the motion for a resolution as a whole by separate houses: the ACP members and the European members both voted for the resolution.

*East Africa*

APP/3309/COMP on East Africa; vote by secret ballot, by separate houses: the ACP members voted for the motion for a resolution. The European members voted against the motion for a resolution. The motion for a resolution was consequently rejected.

*Caribbean*

APP/3265 on the crisis facing the Caribbean tourism industry: adopted with no amendments.

APP/3310/COMP on the Caribbean region; vote by secret ballot, by separate houses: the ACP members voted against the motion for a resolution. The European members voted for the motion for a resolution. The motion for a resolution was consequently rejected.

APP/3316/COMP on the Caribbean region; vote by separate houses: the ACP members voted for the motion for a resolution. The European members voted against the motion for a resolution. The motion for a resolution was consequently rejected.

APP/3301 on damage caused by Hurricane Iris to Belize: adopted with no amendments.

*Pacific*

APP/3311/COMP on the situation in the Pacific: adopted with no amendments.

APP/3302 on the Joint Parliamentary Assembly observer mission to the Fiji elections: adopted with no amendments.

*Migration*

APP/3304/COMP on migration: adopted with 1 amendment.

*Food security*

APP/3312 on food security: adopted with 21 amendments. Vote on the motion for a resolution as a whole by separate houses: the ACP members and the European members both voted in favour.

*Disabled people and older people*

APP/3313/COMP on rights of disabled people and older people in ACP countries. Tsheole (South Africa) spoke. Adopted with 2 oral amendments.

*Gender issues*

APP/3314/COMP on gender issues; vote by separate houses: the ACP members voted for the motion for a resolution. The European members voted against the motion for a resolution. The motion for a resolution was consequently rejected.

*HIV/AIDS*

APP/3305/COMP on HIV/AIDS; Khanbhai, Tsheole (South Africa), Carlotti, Maij-Weggen and Gordon (Trinidad and Tobago) spoke. Adopted with 1 amendment. Vote on motion for a resolution as a whole by separate houses: the ACP members and the European members both voted in favour.

*WTO*

APP/3315/COMP on the WTO negotiations. The resolution was adopted with 12 amendments. Vote on motion for a resolution as a whole by separate houses: the ACP members and the European members both voted in favour.

*Rum*

APP/3382 on rum: adopted with no amendments.

APP/3296/CORR. on the special situation of BLNS countries in future trade negotiations: adopted with 2 amendments.

APP/3299 on sugar: adopted with no amendments.

*Terrorism*

APP/3303/COMP on the fight against terrorism: adopted with 5 amendments.

The following made statements regarding the voting: Natchaba (Togo), Maij-Weggen, Junker, Gröner, Carlotti, Amon-Ago (Côte d'Ivoire), Tsheole (South Africa) and Mbuende (Namibia).

**8. Subjects and themes relating to development cooperation between the EU and ACP countries under the Partnership Agreement pursuant to Article 7(1) (ii) of the Rules of Procedure (continued)**

*Disabled and aged people*

The following spoke: Bowis, Tsheole (South Africa), Howitt, Gemelli, Robleh (Djibouti) and Malin (Commission representative).

*Gender issues*

The following spoke: Glase, Tsheole (South Africa), Junker and Gröner.

*Terrorism*

The following spoke: Khanbhai, Junker and Lucas.

**9. Follow-up by the Commission to resolutions adopted at the 2nd session of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly (Libreville, Gabon) from 19 to 22 March 2001**

The Co-President informed the members that the Commission had provided a note on the follow-up to resolutions adopted at the 2nd JPA session. This note had been distributed.

**10. Summary reports from workshops***Sustainable development/Fisheries*

The chairman, Mr Deva, made an introductory statement.

The rapporteur, Mr Boureima (Niger), reported on the deliberations and the results of the workshop.

*Monetary cooperation*

The chairman, Mr Davies (South Africa), made an introductory statement.

The rapporteur, Mr Sylla, reported on the deliberations and the results of the workshop.

*The rights of the child*

The rapporteur, Mrs Carlotti, announced that she would present a written report on the results of the workshop.

**11. Appointment of General Rapporteur for 2002**

Mr Abakaka (Chad) was appointed General Rapporteur for 2002. The subject of his General Report would be 'The democratic process in the ACP countries since Lomé IV'.

**12. Report by the mission to observe the elections held in Fiji from 25 August to 1 September 2001**

Mr Corrie, Co-President, reported on the mission to observe the elections held in Fiji from 25 August to 1 September 2001.

**13. Other business**

Mr Laakitani (Niue) spoke about Niue, of which he is Prime Minister and about his country's links with the European Union.

Mr Deva proposed that, in future, members of the Assembly should speak standing up.

Mrs Maij-Weggen thanked the two Co-Presidents for their work over the last 2 1/2 years, and expressed her appreciation of Mr Clair's term of office which was coming to an end.

Mr Clair, Co-President, replied and wished his successor every success.

Mr Corrie, Co-President, thanked all those involved in the session of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, including in particular the Commission.

#### 14. **Date and place of next session**

The Co-President announced that the next session would be held in Cape Town (South Africa). In principle the dates would be 18-21 March 2002.

*(The sitting closed at 1.25 p.m.)*

Louis Serge CLAIR and John CORRIE  
*Co-Presidents*

Jean-Robert GOULONGANA and Dietmar NICKEL  
*Co-Secretaries-General*

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## ANNEX I

## ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

## ACP Representatives

CLAIR (MAURITIUS), Co-President  
ANGOLA, VP  
BURUNDI, VP  
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, VP  
COOK ISLANDS, VP  
HAITI, VP  
LESOTHO, VP  
MADAGASCAR, VP  
MAURITANIA, VP  
MAURITIUS, VP  
NIGERIA, VP  
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS, VP  
SOLOMON ISLANDS, VP

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
BAHAMAS  
BARBADOS  
BELIZE  
BENIN  
BOTSWANA  
BURKINA FASO  
CAMEROON  
CAPE VERDE  
CHAD  
COMOROS  
CONGO  
CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF)  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE  
DJIBOUTI  
DOMINICA  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
EQUATORIAL GUINEA  
ERITREA  
ETHIOPIA  
FIJI  
GABON  
GAMBIA  
GHANA  
GRENADA  
GUINEA  
GUINEA-BISSAU  
GUYANA  
JAMAICA  
KENYA  
KIRIBATI  
LIBERIA  
MALAWI  
MALI  
MARSHALL ISLANDS (REPUBLIC OF)  
MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF)  
MOZAMBIQUE  
NAMIBIA  
NAURU (REPUBLIC OF)  
NIGER  
NIUE  
PALAU  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## EP Representatives

CORRIE, Co-President  
CARLOTTI, VP  
DYBKJÆR, VP  
JUNKER, VP  
KINNOCK, VP  
LUCAS, VP  
MAURO, VP  
MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ, VP  
MORILLON, VP  
NOVELLI, VP  
SCHWAIGER, VP  
SYLLA, VP  
VAN HECKE, Johan, VP

ANDREWS  
ANDRIA  
AVEROFF  
AYUSO GONZÁLEZ  
BELDER  
BEREND  
van den BERG  
BODRATO  
van den BOS  
BULLMANN  
BUSK  
CALLANAN  
CUNHA  
DARRAS  
DELL'ALBA  
DEVA  
FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN  
FERRER  
FOSTER  
FRUTEAU  
GAWRONSKI  
GHILARDOTTI  
GLASE  
GOEBBELS  
GRÖNER  
HOWITT  
IMBENI  
ISLER BEGUIN  
JÖNS  
KARAMANOU  
KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT  
KHANBHAI  
LANNOYE  
MAES  
MAIJ-WEGGEN  
MANDERS  
MARTIN David W  
MENDILUCE PEREIRO  
MENÉNDEZ del VALLE  
MIRANDA  
MUSUMECI  
NICHOLSON of WINTERBOURNE  
PANNELLA

RWANDA  
 SAINT LUCIA  
 SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES  
 SAMOA  
 SÃO TOMÉ E PRÍNCIPE  
 SENEGAL  
 SEYCHELLES  
 SIERRA LEONE  
 SOMALIA  
 SOUTH AFRICA  
 SUDAN  
 SURINAME  
 SWAZILAND  
 TANZANIA  
 TOGO  
 TONGA  
 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO  
 TUVALU  
 UGANDA  
 VANUATU  
 ZAMBIA  
 ZIMBABWE

RACK  
 REDONDO JIMÉNEZ  
 ROCARD  
 ROD  
 RUTELLI  
 SANDBÆK  
 SAUQUILLO PÉREZ DEL ARCO  
 SCHEELE  
 SCHMITT  
 SCHNELLHARDT  
 SCHÖRLING  
 SJÖSTEDT  
 SOARES  
 SOUCHET  
 SPERONI  
 SUDRE  
 VAIRINHOS  
 VINCI  
 WIELAND  
 WIJKMAN  
 WURTZ

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ANNEX II

**RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

CLAIR (Mauritius), Co-President  
 DE SOUSA (Angola, VP)  
 HUMPHREY (Barbados) (\*)  
 BAEZA (Belize)  
 HOUNGBEDJI (Benin)  
 SEGOKGO (Botswana)  
 NABOHO (Burkina Faso)  
 NIYUHIRE (Burundi, VP)  
 MANDENG AMBASSA (Cameroon)  
 FERREIRA (Cape Verde) (\*)  
 MAÏTART DJIM-AREM (Central African Republic, VP)  
 ABAKAKA (Chad)  
 KOUMBA (Congo)  
 KISONGA MAZAKALA (Congo, Democratic Republic of) (\*)  
 McCLAY (Cook Islands, VP) (\*)  
 MOLLE (Côte d'Ivoire)  
 ROBLEH (Djibouti)  
 ROSS-CHADERTON (Dominica) (\*)  
 RIJO PRESBOT (Dominican Republic)  
 NGUEMA OWONO (Equatorial Guinea)  
 WELDEGIORGIS (Eritrea)  
 DAWIT YOHANNES (Ethiopia)  
 MATAITOGA (Fiji) (\*)  
 RAWIRI (Gabon)  
 NGUM (Gambia) (\*)  
 ADDAI BASOAH (Ghana)  
 WHITEMAN (Grenada)  
 KOUMBIA DIALLO (Guinea)  
 LEE (Guyana) (\*)

CORRIE, Co-President  
 ANDREWS  
 AYUSO GONZALEZ (2) (3) (4)  
 BEREND  
 van den BERG  
 van den BOS  
 BOWIS (for ANDRIA)  
 BULLMANN (3) (4)  
 BUSK (1) (2)  
 CUSHMAN (for CALLANAN) (4)  
 CARLOTTI, VP  
 COELHO (for MORILLON, VP) (4)  
 CUNHA  
 DELL' ALBA  
 DESIR (for FRUTEAU)  
 DEVA  
 DYBKJÆR, VP  
 FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN (3) (4)  
 FERRER  
 FOSTER  
 GAWRONSKI (2)  
 GEMELLI (for BODRATO)  
 GHILDARDOTTI  
 GLASE (2) (3) (4)  
 GOEBBELS  
 GRÖNER  
 HOWITT (1) (2) (4)  
 JUNKER, VP (2) (3) (4)  
 KARAMANOU

(1) Present on 29.10.2001.

(2) Present on 30.10.2001.

(3) Present on 31.10.2001.

(4) Present on 1.11.2001.

(\*) Country represented by a non-parliamentarian.

PRINCE (Haiti, VP)	KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT
SAUNDERS (Jamaïca) (*)	KHANBHAI
MBELA (Kenya)	KINNOCK, VP
LECHESA (Lesotho, VP) (*)	KLASS (for RACK) (1)
WILLIAMS (Liberia)	KORHOLA (for AVEROFF) (4)
PARAINA (Madagascar, VP)	LUCAS, VP
JANA (Malawi) (*)	MAES
DRAME (Mali)	MAIJ-WEGGEN
SHARMA (Marshall Islands, Republic of) (*)	MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ, VP
GUELAYE (Mauritania, VP)	MAURO, VP (2) (3) (4)
GUNESS (Mauritius, VP)	MIRANDA (1) (2)
O da SILVA (Mozambique) (*)	NOVELLI, VP (1) (4)
MBUENDE (Namibia)	REDONDO JIMÉNEZ (3) (4)
BOUREIMA (Niger)	RIBEIRO E CASTRO (for MUSUMECI) (4)
CHIKELU (Nigeria, VP)	SANDBÆK
LAAKITANI (Niue)	DOS SANTOS (for SOARES) (1) (2) (3)
SHARMA (Palau) (*)	SAUQUILLO PÉREZ DEL ARCO (2) (3) (4)
TUMBU (Papua New Guinea)	SCARBONCHI (for DARRAS) (1) (2) (3)
BIRUTA (Rwanda)	SCHEELE (2) (3) (4)
CONDOR (Saint Kitts and Nevis, VP)	SCHMITT (2)
LAURENT (Saint Lucia) (*)	SCHNELLHARDT
THOMAS (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) (*)	SCHÖRLING (2) (3) (4)
THIAM (Senegal)	SCHWAIGER, VP (1) (2) (4)
SISILO (Solomon Islands, VP) (*)	SJÖSTEDT (4)
DAVIES (South Africa)	SOUCHET (3)
DABOR F.M. (Sierra Leone) (*)	SPERONI (2)
BEDA (Sudan)	SYLLA, VP (2) (3) (4)
KRUTSLAND (Suriname)	VAIRINHOS (2) (3) (4)
DLAMINI (Swaziland) (*)	VAN HECKE, Johan, VP
NGASONGWA (Tanzania)	VINCI (1) (2) (3)
NATCHABA (Togo)	WIELAND (1) (2) (4)
Prince Ulukalala Lavaka ATA (Tonga)	WIJKMAN (2) (3) (4)
GORDON (Trinidad and Tobago) (*)	WURTZ (2)
KIRASO-BIRUNGI (Uganda)	
SHARMA (Vanuatu) (*)	
SAKALA (Zambia) (*)	
CHINDORI-CHININGA (Zimbabwe)	

**Observers:**

*Cuba:* CASTRO, LEE, CABRISAS

**Also present:****ANGOLA**

ALEXANDRE  
BARRADAS  
CABONGO  
CADETE  
DA P.C. RODRIGO  
DOS SANTOS  
LUSSINGA PONGOLOLA  
SANTOS

**EQUATORIAL GUINEA**

ALOGO NCHAMA  
EVUANA ANDEME  
MBA BELA  
ONGUENE

**BARBADOS**

PHILIPS  
SKINNER

**BELIZE**

HYDE

**BENIN**

ACHODE  
HOUESSOU  
MONNOU  
NOUHOUM

(1) Present on 29.10.2001.

(2) Present on 30.10.2001.

(3) Present on 31.10.2001.

(4) Present on 1.11.2001.

(\*) Country represented by a non-parliamentarian.

**BOTSWANA**

CHINGAPANE  
GEORGE  
MOLOSI  
MUKUNGU

**BURKINA FASO**

BARRY  
KERE  
NACRO  
OUEDRAOGO  
PARE  
PALE

**BURUNDI**

KABURUNDI  
MINANI  
NIYUNGEKO

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

DOGONEDJI-BHE  
SOKAMBI ZOUNGUERE

**CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF**

KASONGO BIN SALUMU  
KASONGO NUMBI  
KIRONGOZI KALINDULA  
MUHAYA BAMBA  
TSHIBOLA-tshia-KADIEBUE

**COOK ISLANDS**

SANDS

**COTE D'IVOIRE**

AMON-AGO  
BLEU VOUA  
GBAOU  
MOLLE MOLLE  
N'DRI

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

ALVAREZ  
DOMINGUEZ  
DESPRADEL  
QUIÑONES

**DJIBOUTI**

CHEHEM  
MOUSSA  
YABEH

**ERITREA**

KASSA TEKLE  
SIMON  
TESFAY

**ETHIOPIA**

GESSESSE  
ARSEMA

**FIJI**

SINGH

**GABON**

MAKONGO  
NDONG NGOUA  
POSSO  
REKANGALT

**GAMBIA**

TOURAY

**GHANA**

AWIAGA

**GRENADA**

BOSCH  
COUTAIN

**GUINEA**

KEITA  
OUMAR

**GUYANA**

CHUCK-A-SANG

**HAITI**

ANGERVILE  
AUGUSTIN BELL  
AZOR-CHARLES

CONTENT  
DELICE  
JOSEPH  
PIERRE  
RAYMOND

**CAMEROON**

AKONO BEGALA  
BAH OUMAROU SANDA  
BYAKOLO BYAKOLO  
TSESSUE

**CAPE VERDE**

DELGADO  
MARTA

**KENYA**

KOMBO

**CONGO**

BAKIDI  
BEMDA  
BOMBETE  
DIMI  
MAKAYA  
NGAKALA  
OBIA  
OSSENGUE  
YACCA

**LESOTHO**

MASILO-MOTSAMAI  
MOKETE

**LIBERIA**

KABBEH  
TOWNSEND

**MADAGASCAR**

BERIZIKY  
INDRIANJAFY  
RAKOTONDRASOA

**MALI**

AG HAMANI  
DIAKITE

**MAURITIUS**

GUNESSEE  
JUGUN  
KOODORUTH  
MUNGUR  
SERVANSING

**MOZAMBIQUE**

ZAQUEU

**NAMIBIA**

BIWA  
HAMUNGHETE  
NGAVIRUE  
SCOTT IDHENGA

**NIGER**

ABDOU-SALEYE  
ILLO

**NIGERIA**

EKPA  
GUMEL  
KEHINDE

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

PEPSON  
TUMBU

**RWANDA**

HABIMANA  
MUKAMA  
MUJAWAMARIYA  
POLISI  
RWABUHIHI  
UMUTONI

**ACP-EU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

Prince ULUKALALA LAVAKA ATA (Tonga)  
BOUTMANS

**COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS**

S.E. TUPOU (Tonga)

UYISENGA  
UWONKUNDA

**SENEGAL**

CISSE  
MBAYE  
SAMB

**SIERRA LEONE**

GOODWILL

**SUDAN**

AHMED  
BEDRI  
GINDIEL  
HOILE  
OSMAN  
RAHAMTALLO

**SURINAME**

SITAL

**SOUTH AFRICA**

GABRIEL  
LEBEKO  
MATSTJILA  
PELLE  
PILANE-TSHEOLE  
SONGQEZA

**SWAZILAND**

S. DLAMINI  
ZEEMAN

**TANZANIA**

KARUME

**TOGO**

AKAKPO  
BADOUGOU  
KLUTSE  
KOULOUN  
NYAWOUAME  
OLADOKOUN

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

LAVEAU

**CHAD**

ADJIDEYE  
BARMA  
KHATIR  
NDIAYE

**UGANDA**

BALINDA  
KAGORO  
KINOBE  
ODIDA  
OMACH

**ZAMBIA**

SAKALA  
SEFUKE

**ZIMBABWE**

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BHEBHE  
MLAMBO  
NKOMANI  
KYAKOTYO

President-in-Office of the ACP Council  
President-in-Office of the EU Council

President-in-Office

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

NIELSON Commissioner responsible for development and humanitarian aid  
LAMY Commissioner responsible for trade

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PARTNERS**

ANDRADE, BAEZA, de PAUL de BARCHIFONTAINE (Economic and Social Committee)  
SANZOUANGO, AKOUETE, BROWN (ACP)

**CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE (CTA)**

FONSELA

**CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISE (CDE)**

MAJURU

**OAU**

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**CEDEAO/ECOWAS**

DIALLO Parliamentary observer

**AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARIAN UNION**

FALL Secretary-General

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION**

BARRY Special Counsellor for Africa  
LEBA Consultant STP/WEU

**ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE**

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**ACP CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**

BERNARD Director

**ACP SECRETARIAT**

GOULONGANA Co-Secretary-General

**EU SECRETARIAT**

NICKEL Co-Secretary-General

## ANNEX III

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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on means of access to global communication for ACP countries as a contribution to sustainable development, and the need for such access**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to the working document and accompanying statements on the general report on access to global communication for ACP countries as a contribution to sustainable development, and the need for such access, submitted at the session from 19 to 22 March 2001 in Libreville,
  - having regard to the report of the European Parliament on information and communication technologies (ICT) and developing countries of 30 May 2001 (A5-0191/2001),
  - having regard to the Commission communication on the information society and development: the role of the European Union <sup>(2)</sup>,
  - having regard to the Commission communication to the Council and the European Parliament on the European Community's development policy <sup>(3)</sup>,
  - having regard to the objectives defined by the Council of Ministers for Development Cooperation on 10 November 2000, geared to promoting market access, trade and the transfer of technology,
  - having regard to the reports and declarations of various international organisations and bodies, in particular:
    - the ECOSOC Ministerial Declaration of July 2000,
    - the Millennium Declaration of the United Nations General Assembly of September 2000,
    - the G8 Okinawa Charter on global information society of 23 July 2000,
    - the subsequent reports of the Dot-Force (Digital Opportunity Task Force) set up by the G8, in particular its Genoa action plan,
    - the decisions of the African Development Forum of October 1999 on the development of a national information and communications infrastructure plan,
    - the New African Initiative adopted by the OAU in Lusaka in July 2001,
- A. whereas access to global communication, in particular to modern information and communications technologies (ICT), plays a decisive role in promoting sustainable economic and social development in the ACP countries and can make an important contribution to democratic opinion formation,
- B. mindful of the extremely inadequate provision of ICT infrastructure and facilities in most of the ACP countries and the poor performance combined with high user costs and high incidence of faults by comparison with industrialised countries, which currently allows access to global communication only for a few favoured sections of the population,
- C. whereas a large part of the population, particularly in rural areas of Africa, has no access to telecommunications facilities within easy travelling distance and the city of New York, for example, has more telephones than the whole of Africa, and consequently e-development strategies must be geared above all to basic provision of information facilities, and cognisant of the need of ACP countries to be integrated in the world economy and of the role ICT can play in this regard, bearing in mind the importance attributed by African Heads of State and Governments to ICT and the recognition in the New African Initiative that information and communications technology is one of the top priority sectors in the strategy for achieving sustainable development in the 21st century,

<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

<sup>(2)</sup> COM(97) 351 final.

<sup>(3)</sup> COM(2000) 212 final.

- D. bearing in mind the digital gulf between industrialised countries and the ACP countries, which is threatening to widen further the development gap and thus pose a long-term obstacle to the desired access to global communication, and whereas it is widely acknowledged that the information society can be a powerful enabler of development goals and can play a significant role in promoting domestic development and contributing to regional economic exchanges and integration,
- E. mindful of the provisions of Articles 23 and 43 of the Cotonou Agreement, which underline the importance of ICT and of active participation in the information society for the integration of the ACP countries into the world economy, and bearing in mind the provisions of the Cotonou Agreement in which the Parties agree to step up co-operation between them in the area of information and communication technologies and the Information Society,
- F. regretting that no clarification has yet been found in the WTO negotiations, particularly with regard to the conflict of interests between the USA, the EU and the developing countries, on the issue of whether audiovisual products should be covered by the GATT or GATS rules,
- G. mindful of the particular disadvantages facing small and remote island states in the Pacific, where ICT can make it possible for them to participate in the economic and cultural information flow but whose market is too small to be profitable, and bearing in mind the comparable problems in the Caribbean region and the Indian Ocean,
- H. whereas general access to ICT can reduce economic and social disadvantages and compensate for the disadvantages arising from remoteness, in particular in rural and outlying areas,
- I. stressing that access to global communication is not only a task linked to the formation of the ICT sector but also includes traditional media such as newspapers, radio and television, whereby radio is the most widespread means of communication,
- J. mindful of the importance of independent media in both traditional and new formats for democratic opinion formation and the involvement of civil society,
- K. concerned that freedom of the press and freedom of opinion are not guaranteed in many countries, and dozens of journalists die each year while exercising their profession,
- L. noting that the new possibilities of the ICT sector also contribute to diversity of opinions and pluralism,
- M. mindful of the need for a new world information order in which all cultures should be recognised on an equal footing, whereby cultural and media imperialism and confrontation can be reduced,
- N. whereas a one-way information highway from North to South would be detrimental to the preservation of the cultural identity of ACP countries and would give rise to an unhealthy degree of foreign influence owing to the lack of cultural, linguistic, social and traditional autonomy,
- O. mindful of the consequent need for the ACP countries to produce their own programmes with the aim of a world-wide cultural exchange which will provide a link between peoples and foster understanding for other civilisations, and whereas it has also been found that the Information Society can protect local cultures from alienation and build links between local communities,
- P. bearing in mind the national, regional and local differences with regard to the need for information, infrastructure, level of education and the situation of the private sector, which require a range of different solutions, and the importance of ICT in several fields including health and research, education, rural development and business development; whereas support and dialogue in the area of sustainable energy is a necessary component of ICT development cooperation;

- Q. mindful of the increasing interest among the population, in the age of globalisation, in local and regional programmes and their significance for social cohesion, and taking note of the role that telecentres, cybercafés and video clubs can play in providing access to information for communities in rural and remote areas,
- R. mindful of the encouraging results and success of a multitude of projects aimed at promoting connectivity (e.g. Increasing Internet Connectivity in Sub-Saharan Africa, African Virtual University, Peoplink, Pride Africa, Intelteach to the Future, Worldlinks for Development, Esanet and Fodonet), the comprehensive infrastructure projects planned (Rascom and Africa One), and the increasing supply of Internet services in Africa,
- S. pointing out that technical convergence is not the same as convergence as regards content and consequently a framework of rules is needed which is adapted to the various services with varying degrees of density, and whereas regulatory authorities need to be set up to ensure lasting protection for fair and equal conditions of competition,
- T. mindful of the high investment costs of introducing ICT, which are however counterbalanced by the significantly greater negative consequences arising from a failure to invest in this area, which cannot be resolved by state action alone, and taking into account the Declaration of African Ministers of Finance at the Joint Conference under the auspices of the UN Commission for Africa that information and communications technologies hold promise of enormous positive influence on their countries' economic and social development, their call for ICT development to be an integral part of the continent's national and regional development agenda and for their partners in development cooperation to treat ICT as a special priority for Africa's development,
- U. whereas competition needs to be allowed in the ICT sector in order to increase the density of connections through the use of private capital and improve the efficiency of telecommunication services so that they are accessible to as broad a public as possible at affordable prices, including in remote areas, and whereas, nevertheless, the market alone cannot solve everything and attention also needs to be paid to social benefits,
- V. convinced that a more rapid introduction of ICT can significantly improve opportunities for development and can assist with key concerns of EU development cooperation in areas such as the fight against poverty, health, education, training, the environment and the strengthening of the private sector,
- W. pointing out that the introduction of ICT makes it possible to offer a growing proportion of services, creating many new jobs, but that the high rate of illiteracy in many ACP countries poses an obstacle to progress which can only be met by education and capacity building for ICT,
- X. mindful of the need to promote literacy and technological skills and the opportunities this will bring for supporting local small businesses,
- Y. convinced that the extensive broad-based introduction of ICT can make public administrations more efficient and more open and speed up democratisation processes,
- Z. mindful of the need to coordinate EU projects with those of other donors, particularly the Member States and international institutions, and to create an 'e-development unit' within the EuropAid Cooperation Office for that purpose, which would support sectoral units in integrating ICT into the overall field of development,

#### **Globalisation demands global communications strategies**

1. Calls upon the EU, in close cooperation with ACP governments, to take the lead in formulating and implementing ICT policies that will work for the benefit of developing countries and the poor;

2. Is convinced that the dissemination of ICT can promote the process of public opinion formation and thus democracy and stresses in this connection the role played by freedom of the press and freedom of opinion, which must not be subject to any form of state influence, and supports in this context the drawing-up of a new world information order under the auspices of Unesco and with the participation of the ITU, which will take account of the transformation of the communications sector in the digital age;
3. Stresses the need to include traditional print and electronic mass media in the global communications strategy and above all to make use of radio as the main information medium in developing countries in education, information and health education campaigns, e.g. in the field of Aids prevention and as a supplement to school teaching where teaching materials and staff are in short supply, whereby for example cassettes containing teaching units are produced by educational bodies or health services and made available to radio stations;
4. Is convinced that ICT strategies in developing countries must place the social benefits and the general good at the forefront, alongside justified economic interests; stresses therefore that there is no alternative to the introduction of ICT as a contribution to satisfying basic human needs, since these modern technologies, thanks to their far-reaching practical and social benefits, can bring about a comprehensive solution to these problems, and underlines the vital need to make use of ICT with a view to world economic integration through the increasing share of ICT in value added and export, whilst stressing that knowledge of business practices in the industrialised countries can facilitate access to new markets;
5. Stresses that the extensive dissemination of ICT is an indispensable precondition for the integration of ACP countries into the world economy and draws attention to the possible increase in microeconomic and macroeconomic efficiency and competitiveness through the rationalisation of economic processes, the fall in the cost of transactions and the fine tuning of supply and demand, the targeted distribution of the goods produced and the provision of services in line with market conditions, which can also offer entirely new opportunities to local small businesses;
6. Stresses the advantages of a digital telenetwork by comparison with an analogue network; draws attention to the possibilities offered by mobile telephony and wireless transmission systems and recommends the use of a practical mixture of technologies to ensure the broadest possible cover for both the supplier and the user side;

#### **The general good must be at the forefront**

7. Considers it vital, in the interest of the broad dissemination and cultivation of regional cultures and traditions, to offer programmes and information with the corresponding content in the dominant languages or dialects in each case, given that it has been shown that this significantly increases the motivation of users and, consequently, the successes achieved in terms of use; stresses, therefore, the need to promote the production of content alongside the provision of technical ICT infrastructure;
8. Supports a regulatory framework specific to each country which, in the form of a graduated density of regulation, takes account not only of commercial interests but also of the public interest and concerns relating to the general good, and which makes a clear distinction between individual communication and mass communication and media-related services;
9. Stresses that account should be taken of national, regional and local circumstances when defining the objectives of ICT policy and their implementation owing to the wide differences as regards infrastructure, education and the importance of the private sector;
10. Notes that differing technical standards for telecommunications services pose unnecessary obstacles to transregional communication and that they should therefore be simplified; recommends, consequently, that uniform standards for telecommunication services, e.g. mobile telephony systems, should be used at least within the ACP areas of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, so that they are compatible with each other in practical communication rather than being technically fenced off from neighbouring areas; this would also be useful in terms of tourist and business travel between Europe and the ACP countries and the associated need for intercontinental communications;

11. Supports the drawing-up of studies to ascertain the specific local and regional need for ICT equipment and the issuing of tenders for the corresponding provision of equipment; draws attention to the revealing results of the Bipe study carried out for the Commission as regards sub-Saharan Africa;
12. Draws attention to the manifold possibilities emerging from the Rascom Foundation projects as regards linking African countries to the Intel satellite and urges that work be completed speedily;
13. Supports the creation of advantageous framework conditions and a favourable legal, fiscal and financial environment as a basic condition for investment (investment protection and guarantee as regards the transfer of profits), as well as imports of equipment (tariff advantages) and incentives for indigenous production sites;

### **Strategies for funding**

14. Takes the view, in the light of the significant need for funding which generally exceeds state resources, that the state should encourage private sector participation in the ICT sector and promote competition in order to foster the free development of the media and communications sector and speed up the growth in infrastructure in the sector through investment using private capital from home and abroad, making efficient management and lower user costs possible, which is fully compatible with conditions as regards social cohesion and is compatible with the cultural needs of the society;
15. Supports, further, in view of the significant long-term need for external funding to build up technical infrastructure and in the light of the funding required for consultation and training for the necessary staff, a contribution from additional resources of the European Development Fund, to which the EIB should also make an appropriate contribution;
16. Considers it appropriate to provide resources for knock-on financing from public money, together with subsidies for services with high social benefits, in order to build up infrastructure with the goal of free and affordable access to information;
17. Calls upon ACP countries and the EU to consider in the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF National Indicative Programmes how ICT can be instrumental in achieving their social and economic objectives, particularly in the fields of health, education, e-government and civil society participation, as well as in telecom regulatory capacity building;
18. Calls upon the ACP countries and the EU to consider in the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF Regional Indicative Programmes how ICT can be instrumental in achieving their social and economic objectives, in particular the contribution of the telecom sector and e-commerce towards economic integration at the regional level;
19. Points out that benefits for consumers and the economic proceeds and self-financing ratio for operators rise with the growing spread of ICT facilities, with the result that costs for consumers can fall by a corresponding amount, and therefore supports the greatest possible density of connections;
20. Highlights the significant growth in tax revenue from profits made by undertakings in the ICT sector in parallel with the increase in connection density in the medium term, with the result that in the end all those involved will profit from that growth;
21. Points in particular to the increasing source of revenue from the issuing of licences in the mobile telephony sector and recommends that these resources be used to improve and expand the technical telecommunications infrastructure, including social flanking measures;
22. Takes the view that independent regulatory authorities should be set up with the task of implementing the political objectives, monitoring compliance with licensing conditions, guaranteeing free and fair competition between operators, defending the interests of consumers and preventing market dominance on a lasting basis;

**ICT as a means to combat poverty and promote participation**

23. Points out that, in many cases, poverty stems from the inadequate mastery of cultivation techniques, inadequate business structures and ignorance of civil rights, and therefore stresses the manifold possibilities for using ICT to eradicate the causes of poverty, for example by providing information on entitlements vis-à-vis the state or local authorities, potential sources of earnings or access to loans;

24. Calls emphatically for access to ICT to be opened up to as broad a public as possible, in addition to various business communities, so that no new gap between the information rich and information poor develops within the ACP countries but, on the contrary, special programmes are set up for poorer sections of the population and remote areas, which can also serve to strengthen local economic structures; calls on the EU and the ACP governments to take initiatives at the international level to work towards the goal of making 'the right to information' a reality;

25. Believes that ICT can make a positive contribution to job-prospects for developing countries, including the possibility of attracting service sector employment, which is currently concentrated in the industrialised countries;

26. Welcomes the multitude of local, regional and national ICT initiatives, which make a significant contribution to the spread of knowledge, diversity of opinions and pluralism and should therefore be supported in large numbers, and considers that the linking-up of universities and educational institutions, both among themselves and in the international context, offers a great opportunity for further intellectual and scientific development in the ACP countries;

27. Supports the building-up of a core of experts to instruct the population in the use of ICT facilities; stresses the great attractiveness of this branch of the economy and the diverse and promising employment and promotion possibilities for people with qualified technical and non-technical skills, and draws particular attention to the need to counter the tendency for such persons to emigrate, by means of offering attractive working conditions;

28. Stresses the need for a minimum mass of literacy in order to handle ICT and calls on those responsible to guarantee schooling for all sections of the population, in particular for girls, and to offer more literacy courses for adults, in particular for women; draws attention to the possibility of voice-based input to transfer information via the Internet, which can partially compensate for weaknesses in reading and writing skills;

29. Points to the rise in the social status of women, who are showing great skill as operators of local telecommunications services and have in many places seized the opportunity of economically profitable training and further training in the ICT sector, partly on the basis of micro-credits, and therefore expresses support for ICT programmes which are specifically targeted at improving economic opportunities for women;

30. Draws attention to the manifold possibilities of ICT in the area of education and training, where it is possible to provide distance teaching and hold on-line tests without always having teachers and examiners on the ground and access can be provided to the databases of universities and research centres for the purposes of both exchanging opinions with individual scientists and participating in (telephone or video) conferences;

31. Appeals to the institutions of the ACP countries and the EU and to European donors to ensure that no information elites are formed in the ACP countries in the long term, whose activities would not offer any broad social benefits, but instead to ensure that public facilities such as telecentres and information kiosks bring social and economic benefits to all sections of the population, and calls on those who already have access to ICT services to place them also at the service of the general public;

**Universal access as a means of preventing marginalisation**

32. Calls for at least one public coin-operated telephone to be installed in every village and settlement to meet the basic information needs of the population; at least a telecentre with a telephone and fax service and, if possible, Internet access should be provided in larger settlements; stresses the need in this connection for a steady supply of electricity, also using renewable energies, in particular solar energy;

33. Notes that, in view of the large distances and frequently little-developed transport infrastructure in ACP countries, ICT is exceptionally well-suited to overcoming these obstacles, for example not only in data transmission but also in public transport management, rail, road, air and sea transport, where safety, cost-effectiveness and environmental performance can be improved significantly;

34. Stresses the fact that ICT makes it possible to overcome distance and time in the context of the relocation of jobs and exploiting locational advantages and gaps in the market, whereby regional ties in the various ACP regions offer themselves as joint planning areas, not least in order to make use of comparative advantages;

35. Highlights the greater reliability and speed with which data can be transmitted to areas which are difficult to reach with traditional means of communication and transport, requiring major and time-consuming logistical efforts, which is a particular advantage in terms of situation-specific pricing and marketing;

36. Highlights the possibilities offered by ICT as regards ensuring extensive market transparency and thus making it possible for all farmers, business people, industrial and trade undertakings and the tourism sector and other firms to gain access to more advantageous business opportunities and market their products efficiently on the basis of up-to-date information on markets, prices and marketing conditions; refers in this connection to the Internet trade platform opened in Mali and the associated business opportunities, for example, and to the possibility offered by 'Peoplink' for craftsmen to market their work directly;

37. Draws attention to the outstanding suitability of ICT in the field of health, for example in curbing epidemics, but also for the purposes of distance diagnosis and advice in individual cases through the transmission of data and pictures, links with laboratories and x-ray units, etc., as well as the logistical advantages for rescue services, and recommends the further development of the existing 'Healthnet', which can also create links to research and to doctors practising in industrialised countries, thereby providing information to the public on appropriate treatment methods; welcomes the successful UN project 'Health-Internet Network', for which on-line sites are being set up in hospitals and public health facilities;

#### **ICT as a means for reinforcing local economies and protecting the environment**

38. Highlights the manifold possibilities for using ICT in the field of the environment with regard to measurement, analysis, data transmission and information on harmful and/or dangerous changes in the environment; stresses the significant contribution which ICT can make towards the efficient use of resources, in particular in the vital field of efficient water management; points out that ICT makes rapid access possible to the latest international technological developments in the field of the environment;

39. Points to the manifold possibilities for using ICT in the area of agriculture, by means of constantly updated information and methods as regards control and measurement techniques for the optimisation of individual processes such as sowing, irrigation, pest control, harvesting, storage and prospecting for underground water-supplies;

40. Stresses the importance of ICT for gathering meteorological data which can make it possible to issue early warnings of natural disasters, take preventive action and launch immediate rescue missions;

41. Draws attention to the strengthening of civil society through a more intensive flow of information and more active participation in questions concerning the community as well as the improvement in the quality of life arising from diverse communication possibilities over long distances;

42. Underlines the importance of ICT for the construction and maintenance of networks and self-help groups which are in a position to close a large number of gaps in provision and bring about a lasting strengthening of social cohesion, particularly in emergencies;

#### **ICT as a means for empowering civil society and reinforcing good governance**

43. Recommends that telecentres and cybercafés be set up, offering a wide public in all settlement areas modern ICT services in exchange for payment in order to cover their diverse information and communication needs; recommends that they also be set up in buildings accessible to the public such as administrations, schools, hospitals, etc., whose existing infrastructure can also be used for ICT purposes, whereby wireless systems might also be used, making it unnecessary to convert buildings by laying cables;

44. Emphasises the great advantages of ICT for e-government and good governance, making efficient administration possible over long distances without the barriers of time, space and transport problems, with government and administrative centres being able to communicate both among themselves and with citizens on-line and, where appropriate, interactively;

45. Considers that the use of ICT offers major advantages in coordinating decentralised administration structures from a central location and considers that it can be successfully used for regional cooperation measures and planning procedures, for example road building and regional planning;

46. Considers that the possibility of linking local and regional offices with central bodies and government offices provides a sound basis for practising good governance in the sense of transparency and internal and external scrutiny in interactive contact with citizens and civil society groupings;

47. Considers it necessary to practise e-government through close contacts with individual citizens and also with civil society groupings, diverse public and private bodies, educational institutes and businesses of all sizes in order to arrive at joint development strategies and also identify and remedy problems;

48. Supports an approach addressed both to political and administrative decision-makers and to business communities, investors, operators and civil society groupings with a view to encouraging openness and interest in new technical possibilities for a range of uses, gathering suggestions for implementation and promoting the installation of appropriate ICT facilities;

49. Notes that a policy of greater transparency can play a part in detecting human rights violations, corruption and mismanagement and uncovering socially harmful behaviour such as criminal offences so that the authorities can intervene where necessary;

50. Points out that the simplification of bookkeeping and administrative procedures and methods of dealing with cash receipts and expenditure, for example in the collection of taxes and fees, can lead to significantly reduced costs and thus make an effective contribution to responsible budgetary management;

51. Stresses the need for the protection of intellectual property and notes that audiovisual services are markedly different from other services to the extent that they are a medium for the expression of cultural diversity; takes the view that the GATS rules on cultural services, in particular in the audio-visual sector, should not jeopardise the cultural diversity and autonomy of the WTO contracting parties; calls for developing countries, in particular LDCs, to be allowed the corresponding support under Article IV of GATS, expects the Commission to adopt this position and to take the initiative in upholding it at the Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar;

52. Takes the view that awareness of the long-term development potential of ICT needs to be strengthened both in the ACP countries and among donors, in particular the Member State governments, international institutions and the major development aid organisations, as well as in various business communities and civil society, and that the undeniable advantages for the individual and for the economy and society should be highlighted;

#### **E-development as a task for the ACP-EU partnership**

53. Calls on all those responsible in politics, the economy and society to take part in the drafting and implementation of a comprehensive concept on the introduction and diffusion of ICT, with quantitative targets and deadlines; supports, therefore, the inclusion of e-development in the country strategy papers;

54. Recommends to the Commission that it regularly include the topic of ICT diffusion in the political dialogue with those responsible in the ACP countries and with representatives of donor countries, international organisations and NGOs and that it make use of the advisory function of the ITU;

55. Calls on the Commission to submit a comprehensive e-development strategy plan geared to the many practical applications in all social and economic areas, which should take account of the recommendations and demands made in this resolution;

56. Underlines the need to coordinate EU projects with those of other donors, particularly the Member States and international institutions, and to create an 'e-development unit' within the EuropAid Cooperation Office for that purpose, which would support sectoral units in integrating ICT into the overall field of development cooperation;

57. Considers it necessary for the Commission to take on the role of coordinating programmes and projects vis-à-vis the Member States and also coordinate EU policy in this area with other donors, in particular international development organisations;

58. Calls on the Commission to increase the quality and quantity of the ICT portfolio within the provisions of ACP-EU cooperation as well as the communication on development policy<sup>(1)</sup>, for instance in regard to regional integration, trade, health, education, food security and sustainable rural development strategies, environment and institutional capacity building, preferably by replacing the priority 'Transport' with 'Communication, transport and sustainable energy', as well as through effective mainstreaming;

59. Notes that it is the task of the governments of the ACP countries to create the political and legal conditions for the successful introduction and diffusion of ICT, but that it is the task of the Commission to ensure the necessary support and advice within the framework of the Cotonou agreement;

#### **ICT as a future task for the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly**

60. Considers it necessary for the Commission and the European Parliament, with a view to the World Summit on the Information Society in 2003 in Geneva and in 2005 in Tunis, to organise conferences and seminars to discuss practical concepts and successful projects and to hold regional preparatory meetings prior to the summit, a process which should also be followed constructively by the ACP-EU Assembly;

61. Calls upon the ACP and the EU to consider an all-ACP programme similar to those financed by the EU for Asia, the Mediterranean and Latin America, with view to generating an accelerated use of ICT for the economic and social advancement of ACP countries;

62. Calls upon the European Community to implement a programme devoted to the development of ICT in ACP countries to include in particular the legal and regulatory frameworks, the development of infrastructures and standards, the establishment of systems and mechanisms to enable rural and remote communities to have access to information for education, health, business and other uses;

63. Invites the Co-Presidents of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly to organise, on the occasion of the next meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, a workshop on the role of national parliaments in ICT regulatory issues and e-democracy.

64. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the UN, the UNDP, UNESCO, the WTO, the ITU and the World Bank.

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<sup>(1)</sup> COM(2000) 0212.

**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on the impact of sanctions and, in particular, of embargoes on the people of the countries on which such measures are imposed**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement (Cotonou Agreement), in particular paragraphs 8, 9 and 96, and to Chapter VII, articles 39, 40 and 41 of the UN Charter,
  - meeting in Brussels from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to the report by the Working Group on the impact of sanctions and, in particular, of embargoes on the people of the countries on which such measures are imposed,
  - having considered the impact of sanctions on Angola, Burundi, Cuba, Fiji, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,
- A. whereas the use of sanctions as means to put pressure on political regimes responsible for serious violations of human rights and international law has greatly increased over the last decade,
  - B. whereas the UN Charter provides for sanctions under certain circumstances and whereas the Cotonou Agreement sets out a consultation procedure which includes the imposition of appropriate measures, including sanctions, against any of the parties thereto,
  - C. whereas this development does not mean that these measures have always proven successful but, rather, that they have become an easy option in the arsenal of actions available to the imposing nations,
  - D. whereas it is often the case that the populations of the countries on which such measures have been imposed have been seriously affected in humanitarian terms while the regimes against which they were originally aimed often remained largely unaffected,
  - E. whereas most countries on which sanctions have been imposed have been developing countries, including ACP countries, whose populations were already living under precarious conditions and thus particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of such measures,
  - F. whereas developing countries generally lack the political and economic power to effectively impose and enforce sanctions which makes these measures, in practice, a one-way political tool available to powerful nations,
  - G. whereas in exceptional cases a country against which sanctions have been imposed may possess the means and the political will to impose counter-sanctions, especially against neighbouring states,
  - H. whereas the efficiency of sanctions is enhanced by the extent of internal support for them, in the country under sanctions,
  - I. whereas the unilateral imposition of sanctions in the main lacks both legitimacy and legality because it does not respect the decision-making procedures with which the international community has provided itself in accordance with the law,
1. Notes the continuing and relatively frequent use of sanctions as an instrument of policy;

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

2. Points out that, whilst the overt reason for imposing sanctions is normally to bring about a change of regime in a particular country, or at least a major change in the policy of that country's government, their imposition may also serve simply as an expression of moral condemnation;
3. Takes cognisance of the fact that sanctions are almost always imposed by strong and rich countries on weak and poor ones;
4. Deplores that the populations of countries on which sanctions have been imposed have often suffered unacceptable humanitarian hardships as an unintended consequence and that those in power do not suffer and may even find their position strengthened;
5. Underlines the fact that the humanitarian impact on the population includes psychological as well as physical damage;
6. Notes moreover that sanctions imposed to help the population and hurt the government may, in certain circumstances, have completely the opposite effect and may create an attitudinal change in the general populace instead of a change in the targeted leadership;
7. Notes that the effect of sanctions on the population can result in the development of creative alternatives to circumvent them, as when:
  - the political and economic elites control illegal imports and the black market, thereby strengthening their political and economic power, with an attendant rise in criminality,
  - the establishment of a black market seriously distorts the country's economic structure, with persistent effects over a very long period;
8. Stresses the difficulties involved in assessing the impact of sanctions, including:
  - distinguishing the impact of economic sanctions in a country where there is already an economic crisis,
  - discerning the adverse effects of sanctions from that of punitive measures taken by a government against the population,
  - separating the humanitarian impact from other political, economic and social circumstances,
  - discerning the effects of sanctions on the population of a country during a civil war,
  - lack of clarity in their avowed purpose,
  - poor enforcement, or at least difficulty in assessing the efficacy of enforcement;
9. Considers that many of these difficulties are also weaknesses in any policy of sanctions, in that:
  - a lack of stated clear objectives makes it difficult to determine when sanctions should be ended/abandoned,
  - the regime against which they are directed may be strengthened rather than weakened
  - the general population may be affected rather than the government;
10. Believes, therefore, that it is impossible to lay down hard and fast rules on what sort of sanctions ought to be applied;
11. Stresses that any sanctions policy must be carefully tailored to take into account the specific situation of the country targeted;

12. Believes that the above-mentioned difficulties are so significant as to create a presumption against any use of general economic sanctions;

13. Takes the view that, even in those cases where sanctions are justified, an exemption should be made for humanitarian aid including the provision of health equipment, educational material and agricultural inputs which, wherever possible, should not be distributed by the regime against which sanctions are directed;

14. Notes that, depending on the specific country case, different sanctions, for example, a decision to suspend purchases of oil from a country which derives a substantial part of its revenue from oil sales; a sports boycott against the participation of players in international events; travel restrictions against high officials and members of their families, or curtailing the purchase of diamonds from mineral-producing countries, may bring about varying results;

15. Believes that, where sanctions are nevertheless to be used, they must be closely targeted on political leaders, focus on specific areas where they can have an impact on those leaders of regimes which it has been decided to sanction (financial assets, travel bans), be accepted by a sufficiently large number of states to indicate that they are likely to be applied, be carefully monitored and enforced, preferably by an independent body specifically created for that purpose, and contain clear conditions as to under which circumstances they should be lifted;

16. Considers that the following types of specific sanction, in particular, should be developed and refined, including mechanisms for their enforcement:

- arms embargoes, covering all spare parts and material, as well as effective, internationally coordinated monitoring of producers, suppliers and intermediaries, including more rigorous procedures for the issuing and verification of end-user certificates,
- financial operations including blockage of movement of funds, freezing or seizure of bank accounts directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the targeted group, as well as technical and legal advice to implementing nations, institutions and companies,
- travel restrictions on leaders, families and supporters of the targeted country or movement and, in some cases, on visitors to the country or area, except for humanitarian or health reasons previously diagnosed,
- control of export or import of specific strategically important commodities and products,
- development of international humanitarian law enabling the prosecution of political leaders responsible for human rights violations in any third country;
- provision for punitive measures to be taken against companies and individuals which evade legitimately imposed sanctions;
- restrictions on access to communications networks, including telecommunications and the Internet;

17. Points out that sanctions imposed on one country may have collateral effects within third countries, the effects of which must be assessed and counterbalanced in order to prevent the sanction becoming unjust vis-à-vis such countries;

18. Considers that sanctions that have the support of people in the targeted country and/or are linked to domestic struggles for justice, human rights and democracy, have a much greater chance of succeeding than those that are purely in the interest of sanction-imposing states;

19. Believes that sanctions imposed under the authority of the United Nations have greater legitimacy and are likely to be more effective, because of the imprimatur of the international community, in addition to providing better legal recourse against sanctions-busters;

20. Considers that the practice of naming and shaming countries or companies that violate sanctions can serve as a deterrent to sanctions-busting;

21. Considers that sanctions are only likely to be effective if applied as part of a wider process of international pressure against a regime;
22. Condemns in general the unilateral imposition of sanctions, in particular in cases where the sanction takes the form of an extraterritorial application of an internal law;
23. Notes that while the imposition of sanctions may result in 'counter-sanctions' being imposed, sanctions against a country could bring about positive political change at the regional level, or within a neighbouring state;
24. Despite noted difficulties of assessing the humanitarian impact of sanctions, welcomes the efforts made to develop a methodology to do so, which should be applied before imposing sanctions;
25. Stresses that, where a country against which sanctions have been applied has removed the conditions that gave rise to the sanctions in the first place, the international community ought to assist in rebuilding the country concerned;
26. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the European Commission, the ACP-EU Council, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) and the UN Secretary-General.

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#### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

##### **on the use of renewable energy sources in the ACP States**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
- having regard to Title VII — energy development — of the Lomé IV Convention, where the European Community and the ACP States recognise the mutual benefits of cooperation on energy and identify increased use of alternative, new and renewable energy sources as one of the main objectives of energy development,
- having regard to the new Partnership Agreement between the ACP States and the European Community and its Member States, and in particular Article 32(2) thereof, where both sides agree on cooperation aimed at supporting specific measures and schemes addressing sustainable management issues, such as renewable energy sources especially different forms of solar energy and energy efficiency,
- having regard to Article 57 of the new Partnership Agreement, where the responsibilities are established for defining and adopting the objectives and priorities on which the indicative programmes are based,
- having regard to its resolution on climate change and small island developing states against the background of ACP-EU cooperation <sup>(2)</sup>,
- having regard to its interim resolution of 23 March 2000 on the use of renewable energy sources in ACP States (ACP-EU 2885/fin) <sup>(3)</sup>,
- having regard to the report of its working group on the use of renewable energy sources in ACP States (ACP-EU 3057/B/fin),

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<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 271, 24.9.1999, p. 30.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ C 263, 13.9.2000, p. 22.

- A. whereas primary energy demand in ACP and other developing countries is projected to increase from 2 513 Mtoe in 1990 to c. 7 319 Mtoe in 2020, in particular due to rapid population growth (2,6 % annually in Africa from 1990 to 2010),
- B. whereas two-thirds of the population in Africa live in rural areas without access to modern energy services, fuels and the electricity grid,
- C. whereas in 1990 only 8 % of rural people and 38 % of urban dwellers in sub-Saharan Africa had electricity connections,
- D. whereas small island ACP States are heavily dependent on imported fossil fuels for the majority of their rapidly growing energy needs for transport and electricity production, and on inefficient biomass for their non-commercial energy consumption,
- E. whereas petroleum is imported in the small island ACP States at some of the highest prices in the world, for example 200-300 % of international levels in the Pacific region,
- F. whereas, so far, energy and energy services have not been sufficiently integrated as a horizontal key element in programmes aimed at reducing poverty,
- G. whereas sub-Saharan Africa has enormous diverse renewable energy resources which remain largely unexploited so far, whereas many small island ACP States have abundant resources of alternative renewable energies, such as wind and solar energy,
- H. whereas, in particular, Africa's hydropower resources offer large opportunities for increasing sustainable energy supply through regional cooperation (power trade and building up of transnational electricity interconnections),
- I. whereas there has been significant development of alternative energy technologies over the last decade, both in terms of performance and cost reduction, but public funding and support remain imperative,
- J. whereas modern renewable energy technologies can be price-efficient and competitive with conventional energy sources in a favourable legal and regulatory environment,
- K. whereas the largest potential for meeting the energy needs of the poor in rural areas with the least possible environmental impact lies in new renewable energy technologies,
- L. whereas the traditional use of biomass (fuelwood) for cooking in rural areas of ACP States is often inefficient, and leads to health problems and environmental damage,
- M. whereas experience from projects in various ACP States (Sahel zone involving nine countries, Papua-New Guinea and South Africa) has shown that the existing products and equipment are now of a high technical standard, but that maintenance programmes with a view to sustainable use of new technologies for the use of renewable energies (RE technologies) should be a particular priority and that the infrastructure (distribution networks) needs financial and technical improvements,
- N. whereas energy has in general not been identified as a priority in the indicative programmes of ACP States and, whereas energy projects have played so far only a marginal role in the implementation of the seventh and eighth European Development Funds (EDF), in spite of the emphasis put on energy cooperation in the Lomé IV Convention,
- O. whereas targeting and promoting the transfer of know-how to the ACP States ultimately creates sustained, self-stimulating demand which is economically and ecologically decisive,

- P. whereas in this area the European Union should take on a role as a mediator between the European renewable-energy industry and potential partners in the ACP States which are ready and in a position to accept technological know-how,
- Q. whereas new national and regional indicative programmes will be elaborated under the new Partnership Agreement,
1. Stresses that ACP States face an extraordinary economic and political challenge to meet the growing demand for energy, and stresses that enormous investments in energy infrastructure and services and relevant training and information programmes will be needed;
  2. Stresses that energy must be considered as a cross-cutting issue with a high development potential, especially in view of poverty reduction, as the availability of energy and services is imperative for satisfying basic needs, such as access to food and potable water, household lighting and cooking, health services and education;
  3. Calls on the ACP States and the Commission to regard energy as an important instrument for development and calls therefore for the elaboration of a coherent and sound energy strategy in ACP States, based on the concept of sustainable provision of energy services, aimed at integrating the social and economic needs of users while minimising the environmental impact of energy use; calls in this context on the ACP States to define energy, including the promotion of the use of renewable energy sources, where appropriate, as a priority in the new indicative programmes, taking into account the possibilities of regional cooperation;
  4. Calls on the Commission to include sustainable energy supplies, in particular through energy efficiency and the use of renewable forms of energy, as a priority action field in its new development policy strategy;
  5. Calls on the Commission and the Member States of the EU to integrate the aspect of sustainable energy provision in all development and cooperation programmes and projects;
  6. Calls on the Commission and the EU Member States to promote sustainable energy provision with a view also to creating development partnerships with the business world (public-private partnerships);
  7. Stresses that satisfying energy needs is especially urgent in rural areas remote from the grid, and points out that the lack of economic and social prospects in rural areas is related to the lack of adequate energy supply, resulting in rapidly growing urbanisation;
  8. Stresses that the small-scale and modular nature of new and emerging renewable energy technologies, such as solar PV systems, small-scale off-grid wind turbines, mini- or micro-hydro systems or modern biomass-based generators, is often more appropriate to the level and structure of demand than conventional alternatives, particularly in rural areas;
  9. Points out that access to electrical energy is a basic precondition for access to information and communications technology and that renewable energy sources for generating electricity in rural areas can be of key importance in this respect;
  10. Stresses the differences, in terms of economy, climate and infrastructure, which necessitate a tailor-made approach for each country;
  11. Notes that increased use of renewable energy sources would reduce dependence on expensive imports of fossil fuels and help improve balances of payments; stresses that the implementation of systems of new and renewable energy technologies can have a significant positive impact on job creation and employment;

12. Stresses that the increasing use of renewable energies in the developing countries will play a major part in combating the global, man-made greenhouse effect since in 2010 emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> in those countries will probably be greater than in the industrialised countries, including Eastern Europe;
13. Emphasises the decisive role of science and technology and the need to devise know-how transfer strategies for the purpose of building indigenous capacity for development and maintenance of modern energy technologies in ACP States;
14. Stresses the need to improve the transfer of know-how by means of the direct promotion of skills (university and technical training, work experience in industry) carried out under mobility programmes;
15. Calls on the ACP States to examine the possibilities of overcoming existing obstacles to the use of renewable energy sources, such as the lack of an adequate legal, fiscal or regulatory framework, and the reasons for lack of private foreign investment;
16. Advocates a reduction in subsidies for conventional energy generation and in import duties on RE technology;
17. Advocates fiscal inducements to increase the market penetration of RE technology and energy-efficiency measures, in particular for locally produced technology;
18. Regards the inclusion of the private sector and attractive terms for foreign direct investments as essential, with a focus on the fight against corruption;
19. Calls on the African ACP States to work together, in particular for better exploitation of the vast hydropower resources, and to put in place stable and transparent government and utilities coordination for policy making and for implementation of regional energy cooperation; points out that, without regional cooperation, it will hardly be possible to attract investors for financing transnational infrastructure;
20. Calls on the Commission and the ACP States to encourage cooperation between businesses in the EU and the ACP States with a view to fostering more rapid dissemination of systems and technology in the field of renewable energy;
21. Welcomes the increasing attention paid to renewable energy sources in the civil services of the ACP States with the creation of special departments in ministries or the creation of separate agencies;
22. Calls for greater support for the ACP States in creating administrative capacity in the energy sector to give the authorities more reliable statistics, thereby improving the scope for planning and decision-making in developing their energy strategies;
23. Welcomes the Commission's decision to hold regional seminars on the use of renewable energies for the competent decision-making bodies in the ACP States to prepare the way for a substantial increase in projects concerned with sustainable energy supplies; in this context, welcomes the successful outcome of the Sustainable Energy Seminar for ACP Island States within the Framework of EC Development Cooperation, held on 26-27 June 2001 in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), and endorses its conclusions stressing the need:
  - (a) to work in an inter-disciplinary way, at the policy, programme and project levels, to ensure that the importance of the provision of energy services is reflected in all economic and social sectors;
  - (b) for capacity building at the level of national policy development and planning, including improved data on and analysis of energy use/needs, and the local private sector for the provision of energy services;
  - (c) for development of national energy policies which encourage energy efficiency practices and renewable energy use;

- (d) for development of appropriate framework conditions for energy sector development and private sector investment (where appropriate market conditions exist), including a stable policy platform, and a transparent, participatory and equitable regulatory platform;
- (e) to take advantage of regional complementarities to enhance joint learning and benefit from economies of scale;
24. Calls on the Commission and the ACP States to prepare a campaign for adequate information on the use of renewable energy sources in ACP States;
25. Calls on the Commission to examine the possibilities of creating new, appropriate finance mechanisms for renewable energy projects, in order to overcome the lack of financial resources for credit financing of the high up-front costs of renewable energy technologies; in this connection the creation of micro-credit systems or the provision of funding for training and development in the banking sector should be looked into;
26. Calls on the Commission and the Council to introduce binding environmental rules guiding grants-based assistance and activities within investment banks — such as the EIB — and national export credit agencies, so as to promote investments in sustainable energy and energy efficiency;
27. Welcomes the fact that the private financial sector is beginning to become involved in renewable energies in the developing countries;
28. Calls on the European Investment Bank to draw up innovative appropriate financial instruments for the support of small and medium-sized projects for renewable energy sources in ACP States in the framework of the EIB-managed part of the EDF;
29. Stresses the importance of the Global Environment Facility and the Clean Development Mechanism for the financing of RE projects in the ACP States;
30. Welcomes the international agreement to a set of decisions to speed up action on climate change as reached in the Bonn Conference on Climate Change (COP-6, part 2, 23 July 2001) by more than 180 countries, including Japan, Australia, Canada and Russia, but with the notable exception of the United States; this agreement is an important step towards the emergence of a global and multilateral decision-making process in response to climate change; in this context efforts to promote renewable energy as well as energy efficiency will be encouraged, notably through the CDM (Clean Development Mechanism);
31. Welcomes the conclusions of the G8 Renewable Energy Task Force, presented at the G8 Heads of Government Summit in Genoa (July 2001), emphasising that renewable energy — including on-and-off-grid renewable electricity and the more efficient use of biomass for heating and cooking as part of a balanced portfolio of energy solutions — can help facilitate sustainable development for large numbers of people living in developing countries;
32. Endorses, in particular the following recommendations from the G8 Task Force:
- taking steps to remove incentives and other supports for environmentally harmful energy technologies and developing mechanisms that address externalities, thus enabling renewable energy technologies to compete in the market on a fairer and more equal basis;
  - supporting access to RES by the rural poor through, for example, the strengthening of micro-finance organisations;
  - addressing energy issues, including renewables, in the context of the International Development Targets;
  - encouraging ODA, bilateral and multilateral agencies to explicitly consider RES for development projects;

- extending so-called sector arrangements for other energy lending to RES and developing and implementing common environmental guidelines among the Export Credit Agencies (ECAs);
  - ensuring that RES are adequately considered as part of energy policy in assessing development priorities of countries participating in poverty-reduction programmes, and helping strengthen institutional capacity to support the development of comprehensive national renewable energy strategies;
33. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the European Investment Bank and the G8.

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### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

#### on the situation in West Africa

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which was adopted by the OAU in Nairobi in June 1981 and entered into force in October 1986,
  - having regard to the Cotonou Agreement,
- A. concerned at the economic difficulties and persistent poverty within the region, worsened by the instability of prices of raw materials, in particular coffee, cocoa and cotton,
- B. having regard to the continuing drought affecting the Sahel countries and the food insecurity and emergency situation in certain parts of the region, in particular in Niger,
- C. whereas the African Union has launched a New African Initiative to stimulate economic growth continent-wide,
- D. having regard to the region's progress towards economic and monetary integration, marked by the establishment of an external tariff common to all member countries of the WAEMU and the creation in January 2001 of the West African Monetary Institute, prefiguring the establishment of a single monetary area between the ECOWAS member states in 2004,
- E. having regard to the states' commitment to resolutely combat terrorism in all its forms,
- F. whereas an Action Plan for Africa was announced at the G8 Summit in Genoa, aimed at promoting investment, trade, public health, good governance and conflict prevention in Africa,
- G. noting that democratic pluralism is making progress and becoming more firmly rooted in parts of West Africa: Benin, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Mauritania, Senegal,
- H. considering independent electoral commissions to be an essential requirement,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- I. whereas the political crisis in the Mano River region can only be solved through a constructive dialogue between the parties concerned and having regard to the mobilisation of the women of that region in favour of the dialogue process,
- J. whereas the fight against impunity is an essential means of ensuring that victims obtain justice, preparing the ground for reconciliation and establishing lasting peace,
- K. having regard to the UN sanctions against Liberia because of the overwhelming evidence of its authorities' support for rebels in neighbouring countries: an arms embargo, a ban on the international sale of diamonds, and an embargo on senior Liberian officials travelling abroad,
- L. having regard to the Liberian Government's commitment to complying with the decisions contained in UN Security Council Resolution 1343, in particular the expulsion of all members of the RUF and a ban on their activities within Liberia,
- M. whereas the European Union has completed its consultations with Côte d'Ivoire and has decided gradually to resume its cooperation, having assessed the situation and concluded that the Ivorian authorities have respected their undertakings and have announced a process to restore the country's political and social stability,
- N. having regard to the wish expressed by the President of the Togolese Republic to respect Article 59 of the constitution,
- O. stressing the need to hold free and transparent elections in Togo, in accordance with the Lomé Agreement of 29 July 1999 and the Head of State's appeal in this connection on 11 and 24 October 2001, to the independent national commission and the whole political class,
- P. having regard to the sentencing and imprisonment of Mr Agboyibo,
- Q. concerned at the inter-community violence in Nigeria,
1. Welcomes the fact that economic and monetary integration is gaining momentum in West Africa, encourages political, economic and social regional cooperation within the framework of ECOWAS and WAEMU, and commends ECOWAS and the WAEMU for the work done to this end;
  2. Calls on the Commission to provide all necessary technical assistance to ECOWAS and WAEMU to promote the rapid establishment of all their institutions;
  3. Calls on the Commission to increase its emergency food aid, pursue its programme of support for the creation of cereal banks and the rehabilitation and creation of pastoral water points, and consider what support can be given to micro-dam projects as part of crop security measures;
  4. Supports the priorities set out by the New African Initiative, which recognises that economic growth depends, in particular, on transparent management of public affairs, the absence of conflicts, respect for human rights and massive investment in education and public health;
  5. Calls on the European Commission and the Member States to extend the scope of initiatives to reduce and cancel debts under the HIPC (Heavily Indebted Poor Countries) programme by actively supporting the policy of 'debt alleviation and development contracts', including specific and verifiable objectives to reallocate resources to sustainable growth sectors (public health and education);
  6. Calls on the Council and the G8 member states to specify the detailed arrangements for the Action Plan for Africa announced at the Genoa Summit, and stresses that the credibility of this initiative will depend on the amount of additional resources allocated;

7. Notes the sense of civic responsibility which the Presidents of Ghana, Cape Verde and Mali have shown by respecting their countries' constitutions, which limit the number of consecutive presidential terms of office to two, but deplores the intention expressed in other countries of changing this constitutional rule;
8. Welcomes the fact that the Ivorian authorities have respected their undertakings to restore lasting peace in the country and calls on the political class to show its keen sense of the national interest to create a climate propitious to genuine reconciliation, the objective of the current forum;
9. Invites all the parties concerned in Togo to show discernment and encourage measures to calm the situation;
10. Calls on the independent national electoral commission (CENI) and the Togolese authorities to hold, as soon as possible, a free and transparent general election, in accordance with the Lomé framework agreement signed by the opposition parties and the President's coalition of supporters in July 1999 and to allow all those who wish to take part to do so;
11. Calls on the Togolese authorities to strengthen respect for human rights and promote the rule of law with a view to accelerating normalisation of cooperation relations between Togo and the European Union;
12. Calls for Mr Agboyibo to be released and granted an amnesty so as to recover all his civic rights;
13. Calls on the Togolese judicial authorities, in a conciliatory spirit, to speed up proceedings in order to reach a final decision on the Agboyibo case;
14. Welcomes the release of Alpha Condé, who has been able to resume his seat as a member of parliament;
15. Expresses its satisfaction at the progress made in the dialogue between the three Mano River Union countries; welcomes the agreements concluded and their decision to undertake joint action against the groups involved in the events destabilising the region and to reopen and monitor their joint frontiers together;
16. Encourages the efforts of ECOWAS towards a lasting and final settlement of the crisis in the Mano River Union region;
17. Deplores the disaster of enormous human suffering caused by continued armed conflicts in these countries;
18. Welcomes the continued progress in the peace process in Sierra Leone since the signing of the ceasefire agreement, particularly in the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration programme, the release of child soldiers and abductees by the armed groups and the deployment of UNAMSIL eastward, including the diamond-producing areas, and strongly hopes that this process will continue;
19. Calls on the EU to give concrete support to the peace process in Sierra Leone by contributing to the adequate resourcing of UNAMSIL, and in particular to the budget for the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration programme, which remains crucial to the success of the entire peace process;
20. Urges that the Special Court for Sierra Leone, which must meet in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1315, receive sufficient and sustained funding to initiate and complete trials of those most responsible for the gravest human rights abuses committed since the conflict began in 1991;
21. Welcomes the fact that the President and Government of Liberia are now working on policies towards transparent democratic government and are in discussion with the Commission for a possible renewal of aid;

22. Calls on the Liberian Government scrupulously to respect its undertakings with regard to the UN Security Council resolutions;
23. Calls on governments and the diamond industry to establish an effective and transparent international diamond certification system;
24. Urges the Nigerian Government to restore a climate of confidence between the communities, in accordance with country's constitution;
25. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission and to the Governments of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo.

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### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

#### on Central Africa

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
- A. expressing deep concern at the ongoing violence and insecurity in Burundi, which has left at least 200 000 people dead since 1993 and has caused hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes, including 400 000 Burundian refugees living in neighbouring Tanzania,
- B. deploring the heavy fighting in September between government forces and rebels north-east of Bujumbura, which caused another 15 000 people to flee their homes,
- C. welcoming the recent progress in the implementation of the Arusha Agreement, in particular the announcement of a start on implementation of the plan devised by the mediator, Mr Mandela, and adopted at the summit meeting of Heads of State in Arusha on 23 July 2001, under which the transitional government is due to take office on 1 November and an African peacekeeping force will be deployed,
- D. expressing its support for the mediator, Mr Mandela, and for the peace plan which he is promoting,
- E. concerned at the fact that the two main armed opposition groups in Burundi — the National Liberation Forces (FNL) and the National Council for the Protection of Democracy-Forces for the Protection of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) — have not signed the agreement or committed themselves to the peace process,
- F. whereas there can be no military solution to the conflict and it is up to Burundi's politicians and armed forces, including rebel groups, to find a consensus on the outstanding issues,
- G. deploring the attempted coup of 28 May 2001 in the Central African Republic and the ten days of fighting that followed during which hundreds of people lost their lives,
- H. whereas the situation in the Central African Republic since the attempted coup has been marked by sharp political tensions, further economic decline and a lack of security,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- I. whereas the continued presence of the UN peace-building mission in the Central African Republic becomes all the more important in the current volatile situation,
- J. whereas presidential elections took place in Chad on 20 May 2001 and the Constitutional Council declared the outgoing President, Idriss Deby, victor in the first round,
- K. reaffirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all states in the region,
- L. reaffirming also the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) over its natural resources,
- M. whereas the illegal exploitation of these resources has already been described as 'systematic looting' in a recent United Nations report,
- N. deploring the recent outbreak of fighting in the eastern part of the DRC,
- O. welcoming the progress that has been made in key areas of implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, which constitutes the consensual basis for peace in the DRC, but noting the many problems still facing the peace process,
- P. welcoming in particular the advanced state of deployment of the MONUC in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1341, but recalling the responsibilities of all parties to cooperate in the full deployment of the UN force,
- Q. noting the plan, elaborated by the parties, for the orderly withdrawal of all foreign forces from the DRC,
- R. welcoming the recent meeting of the inter-Congolese pre-dialogue in Gaborone, Botswana, from 20 to 24 August 2001, which has given a new impetus to national reconciliation by reflecting the participants' shared desire to put an end to the war, preserve the country's independence and unity, and establish democracy,
- S. noting that, on 2 September 2001, the Congo-Brazzaville parliament approved the draft constitution drawn up by the government,
1. Expresses its profound concern over the continued violence and the humanitarian situation in Burundi, in particular the plight of the hundreds of thousands of refugees and internally displaced persons;
  2. Calls on the signatories of the Arusha Agreement to promptly implement the plan adopted at the Arusha summit on 23 July 2001 and set up the country's transition institutions by 1 November 2001;
  3. Calls for the rapid deployment of the African peacekeeping force to monitor the implementation of the peace agreement and to protect the transitional government;
  4. Calls on all parties that remain outside the Arusha peace process to cease hostilities and to participate fully in that process without delay, as failure to do so will lead to isolation and imposition of sanctions;
  5. Calls on the international community and the Commission to provide the humanitarian aid needed by the Burundian population and to supply the cooperation and the resources required for the establishment of democratic institutions, in particular reform of the army and the legal system;
  6. Condemns the attempted coup d'état in the Central African Republic and deeply regrets the loss of life that occurred;

7. Reiterates the inadmissibility of the use of force to attain political or economic goals and calls on all parties in the Central African Republic to respect human rights and the rule of law, and to solve the problems through dialogue within the framework of democratic principles;
8. Welcomes the recommendation of the UN Secretary-General to extend the mandate of the UN peace-building mission in the Central African Republic until December 2002, and calls on the EU to actively contribute to achieving the UN objective of restoring political and economic stability;
9. Regrets the shortcomings in the organisation of the Chad presidential poll and the resultant irregularities;
10. Asks the Cameroon Government to agree to the setting-up of an independent committee of inquiry to shed light on the numerous acts of violence which have occurred in recent months and ascertain whether the law enforcement units have been responsible, and also to take all the necessary measures to ensure that the perpetrators are punished and that the victims of violations are granted fair compensation;
11. Reaffirms its belief in peaceful means of coming to power through free and transparent elections;
12. Points out that the EU partnership with Chad is based on respect for democratic values and fundamental freedoms;
13. Reaffirms its support for the 1999 Lusaka Agreement, which provides a consensus on the basis of which peace can be restored in the DRC and the region as a whole; urges all parties concerned to comply with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1304 to the letter;
14. Notes with satisfaction that the ceasefire among the parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement has been largely respected, welcomes the progress on disengagement and redeployment, and reiterates its urgent call to all parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to implement it;
15. Demands that all the parties disengage and redeploy their forces in accordance with the Harare sub-plans and subsequent commitments;
16. Congratulates Namibia on having withdrawn its troops from DRC territory and insists that the Governments of Angola and Zimbabwe on the one hand, and of Uganda and Rwanda on the other, withdraw their troops and their support for armed rebel movements in the DRC;
17. Calls on all the parties to refrain from any offensive action during the process of disengagement and withdrawal of foreign forces, and expresses concern at recent reports of military operations in Kivu;
18. Calls on all parties concerned to cooperate unreservedly with the UN panel of experts responsible for investigating the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other sources of wealth in the DRC;
19. Welcomes the positive spirit with which all participants in the inter-Congolese pre-dialogue meeting approached the discussions in Gaborone and, while deploring the lack of progress in Addis Ababa, strongly urges all Congolese parties to continue working in the same spirit of compromise and conciliation at the next meeting scheduled to resume this November in South Africa;
20. Welcomes the deployment of 2 000 UN troops to help monitor the ceasefire and urges the rapid launch of the next phase of the UN operation, involving the deployment of more troops to begin the programme of voluntary disarmament;

21. Calls on the Council and Commission to step up efforts to implement the Lusaka Agreement and continue to support Mr Masire's mediation efforts and urges them to take the necessary political and economic measures without delay to ensure that the agreement can be properly implemented;
22. Calls on the Member States to honour their commitments concerning the monitoring of arms exports and the prevention of illicit sales of arms and of the trafficking activities through which the necessary funding for the continuation of the war is obtained;
23. Welcomes the decision of the Congo-Brazzaville authorities to put the draft constitution to a referendum, as provided for in the dialogue and national reconciliation agreement;
24. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the United Nations Secretary-General, the African Union, and the Governments of Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, the DRC, Rwanda, Uganda, Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

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### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

#### on Southern Africa

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

— meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,

#### **Angola**

- A. dismayed by the intensity of the civil war that has been waged for more than 25 years between the Angolan Government and UNITA, by the non-application of the Lusaka peace agreement, and by the recent attack on a train by UNITA, which constitutes one of the bloodiest dramas in recent years,
- B. whereas peace and national reconciliation can be achieved only by peaceful means and not within the framework of a military solution,
- C. whereas there can be no lasting solution to the Angolan conflict so long as the diamond traffic which finances UNITA enables them to get weapons,
- D. whereas, although Angola has considerable natural resources, the population continues to live under conditions of appalling misery mainly because of the war, and the operating conditions of these resources have to be the subject of the greatest transparency,
- E. whereas the reform of the constitution and electoral law in Angola has to be the occasion to reaffirm respect for human rights, the rule of law, good governance and free and fair elections, as well as the freedom of the press,
- F. worrying deeply about the Angolan population, victims of the war, and in particular refugees and the fate of displaced persons inside the territory, while at the same time the worsening of violence renders the United Nations humanitarian action for these people more and more perilous,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- G. also deploring the increase in minelaying in Angola, a country which is a signatory to the Ottawa Convention and which has been a major focus of EU-funded demining efforts,

#### **South Africa**

- H. whereas the Republic of South Africa, now democratic and released from institutionalised racial segregation, is a crucial element for political stability and economic development in the African continent and in Southern Africa in particular, proving that there is an alternative to underdevelopment, war and despotism,
- I. considering that as South Africa is cementing democratic principles in the country hurdles such as poverty, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, crime and violence — especially against women and children — have to be obviated,
- J. whereas it would be intolerable for South Africa to be taken into the vicious circle of insecurity and retreating economic development which would generate still more poverty and insecurity,
- K. whereas the tragic impact of the alarming crime levels is felt not only by the South African people themselves but also by the European immigrant communities in the country, which find themselves even more exposed to the impact of crime owing to their involvement in economic activities linked to trade,
- L. having regard to progress made in the field of human rights over seven years in the Republic of South Africa, and in particular the South African Government's efforts to check the use of violence by the police and security forces,

#### **Mozambique and Malawi**

- M. having regard to the serious flooding which has once again affected Mozambique and Malawi,
- N. whereas numerous dwellings and important elements of infrastructure have disappeared, and whereas there have been enormous losses in arable and livestock farming,

#### **Angola**

1. Condemns the terrorist acts perpetrated by UNITA and expresses its deepest solidarity with the victims and their families;
2. Stresses that the continuation of this situation does not contribute towards introducing the climate of confidence needed to engender a serious and effective dialogue that can lead to peace and national reconciliation in Angola;
3. Urgently calls on UNITA to end its terrorist acts, to respect the provisions and spirit of the Lusaka Protocol and to embark seriously on the road to peace through concrete actions confirming its declared willingness for dialogue;
4. Calls on the Government of Angola to remain open to further discussions with UNITA; asks the United Nations to take the responsibility for organising new peace talks between the two parties;
5. Stresses its commitment to a political solution based on the Bicesse Peace Agreement, the Lusaka Protocol and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, and on respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as implementation of economic and social reforms;

6. Invites the parties to the Angolan conflict to open an inclusive dialogue leading to sustainable peace in which human rights will be guaranteed and protected, and hopes in this context that the declared determination of President Dos Santos and his government to lead a dialogue on the ways to achieve peace on the basis of the Lusaka Protocol will be carried through to good effect;
7. Welcomes President Dos Santos's decision not to stand in the forthcoming elections and calls on Jonas Savimbi to do likewise;
8. Stresses that a durable and representative solution for the future of Angola cannot be limited to the government and UNITA but must necessarily pass through a process of dialogue involving other parties represented at parliamentary level and organisations of civil society with the aim of establishing peace throughout Angolan territory;
9. Welcomes the award of the Sakharov Prize to D. Zacarias Kamuenho, viewing it as a recognition of the efforts made by the Churches and, more generally, by the whole of civil society, for peace and for inter-Angolan dialogue;
10. Welcomes the commitment of the Government of Angola to hold free and fair elections during the second half of 2002, provided that peace and security are restored beforehand; recalls that these have to be preceded by an intensive period of preparation intended to develop the democratic climate needed for their good organisation; invites the EU to assist the Angolan Government in leading the process towards elections;
11. Reaffirms the importance which it attaches to the effective implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and invites this body to condemn those countries and companies which are acting in breach of the ban laid down in Resolution 1295 (2000) and which, by buying diamonds, contribute to the fuelling of this war;
12. Invites all the parties to the conflict to allow humanitarian organisations to reach, in full safety and without restriction, the people affected by the war, and in particular refugees and displaced persons, and to guarantee protection to the personnel of these organisations;
13. Calls on all parties to the conflict to immediately stop their minelaying activities;
14. Invites the African governments to intensify their cooperation, if necessary, in order to place themselves in a position to demand a binding ceasefire in Angola;
15. Calls on the EU Commission and the ACP-EU to identify countries that provide markets for UNITA's diamond trafficking;

### **South Africa**

16. Calls on the Government of South Africa to do everything possible to encourage sustainable development and to increase the living standard of the majority of the black population;
17. Supports the South African Government in its efforts to contribute to finding solutions to conflicts in neighbouring countries, including those likely to impact on the region's economic attractiveness;
18. Invites the Government of South Africa to intensify its efforts to combat poverty and social inequality, promote job creation, and to speed up, within the framework provided by the law, land reform for the benefit of the poor;
19. Invites the Government of South Africa to intensify its efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS; requests in this context the implementation of a clear programme of prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS;

20. Invites the authorities concerned to redouble their efforts in the fight against crime and insecurity while ensuring that this does not undermine respect for human rights; invites, accordingly, the Member States, the Commission, the European Investment Bank and the international community to lend assistance, under their respective programmes, to the Government of South Africa to allow it to adopt new measures of prevention in the fight against crime and to strengthen existing measures in order to generate the climate of greater security necessary for the economic development of a peaceful society;

21. Invites the Government of South Africa to intensify efforts to combat sexual violence, to prevent this type of behaviour and to protect women and young girls;

22. Recalls that, in addition to the reduction of poverty, one of the priorities of the European Programme for Reconstruction and Development (EPRD) in South Africa is the 'consolidation of the foundations laid for a democratic society and rule of law in which human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected completely';

### **Mozambique and Malawi**

23. Expresses its solidarity with the people of Mozambique and Malawi;

24. Calls on the Commission and the Member States of the European Union to step up their efforts to help the reconstruction of dwellings and infrastructure;

25. Calls on the Commission to draw up, with the countries concerned, a programme seeking to prevent the recurrence of the floods;

26. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, to the Commission, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity and the Governments of Angola, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa.

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## **RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>**

### **on the situation in the Sudan**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to the report of its delegation on its fact-finding mission to the Sudan from 26 June to 2 July 2001,
  - having regard to Resolution 2001/18 of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights of 20 April 2001,
  - having regard to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1372 (2001) of 28 September 2001 lifting the sanctions imposed on the Sudan,
- A. delighted that its fact-finding mission was granted every facility by the Government of the Sudan to travel where it wished and interview those it asked to,
- B. deeply concerned by the continuing civil war in the Sudan, with its attendant suffering and misery, and its adverse effect on the civilian population, in particular women and children,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- C. pointing out the urgent need for a just and durable peace settlement, and deeply regretting the failure of the numerous peace initiatives undertaken so far,
- D. deploring the occurrence, within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, of the use of children as soldiers and combatants, forced conscription by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, forced displacement, arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment of civilians, and of still-unresolved cases of enforced or involuntary disappearances,
- E. deploring the abduction of women and children who are subjected to forced labour or similar conditions, carried out on an inter-tribal basis and mainly by the murahaleen militias, but welcoming the activities of the Committee for the Eradication of the Abduction of Women and Children (CEWAC) as a constructive response on the part of the Government of the Sudan,
- F. deeply concerned by the use of civilian premises for military purposes and the indiscriminate aerial bombardment of such targets,
- G. welcoming the expressed commitment by the Government of the Sudan to respect and promote human rights and the rule of law and its expressed commitment to a process of democratisation with a view to establishing a representative and accountable government, reflecting the aspirations of the people of the Sudan,
- H. deeply concerned nevertheless by the continuing violations of human rights in the Sudan, in particular concerning religion, security of the person, expression, association and peaceful assembly,
- I. considering the fact that most parties to the conflict accept the principle of the long-term status of the South Sudan being decided in a referendum,
- J. noting with disquiet the apparent slowdown and consequent lack of progress in the EU-Sudan political dialogue,
- K. aware of the currently destabilising effects of oil production but also of its extremely valuable potential contribution to the country's economic development,
- L. greatly alarmed at the growing food crisis in parts of the country, compounded by war operations and the increasing number of Internally Displaced Persons,
- M. horrified at the continuing depredations of the Lord's Resistance Army, including further abductions of children from northern Uganda and the use of thousands of children as soldiers and sex slaves and the consequent death of many of them,

### **Peace**

1. Calls on all parties to the conflict to refrain from any further aggressive action and to proceed immediately to serious negotiations with the aim of achieving a complete ceasefire in the very near future, a ceasefire which should be monitored by the United Nations or the African Union;
2. Calls on the parties to the conflict to respect the Geneva Conventions prohibiting attacks against civilians, and to refrain from locating military installations in civilian centres and indiscriminate aerial bombardment;
3. Regrets the refusal by the SPLM/A to respond positively to the call for a comprehensive general ceasefire by the Government of the Sudan (GoS), and condemns the continuing SPLA attacks and in particular the major offensive in Western Bahr el-Ghazal which was conducted at the very time of the 2 June 2001 summit of the IGAD Sub-Committee on the Sudan;

4. Considers that top priority should be given to the pursuit of the IGAD process which, being essentially neutral, covering the interests of all parties in the conflict and involving all states and other parties concerned, offers the best prospect for achieving a just and durable peace, but welcomes other peace initiatives which can reinforce and complement the IGAD peace process;
5. Regrets the fact that the IGAD peace process seems to have stalled recently and calls on the European Union and on those EU and ACP members which are part of the process to increase their political commitment to it;
6. Calls for the European Union to send a high-level troika in the near future to help revive the peace process and the EU-Sudan political dialogue;

#### **The EU-Sudan political dialogue**

7. Welcomes the progress achieved by the EU-Sudan political dialogue, particularly the improved relations between the Sudan and its neighbours and the removal of any suspicion that the country is supporting international terrorism; welcomes the Sudan's current support for the international fight against terrorism;
8. Notes that while some improvement has been made in the areas currently covered by the political dialogue — notably human rights, democracy, the rule of law and good governance, and the peace process — the situation regarding all of these remains unsatisfactory and requires further efforts by all concerned;
9. Considers that the identification by the European Union of benchmarks, specific guidelines and various conditions and steps which could lead to the re-establishment of normal relations could help contribute to progress;
10. Calls on the GoS to expedite its efforts to address problems relating to religion, security of the person, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and to take more effective action against torture, discrimination against Christians and abductions (which particularly affect women and children);
11. Considers that it could be useful for the European Union to directly link progress made under these various headings in the political dialogue to specific development programmes, extending its rather limited projects in the field of human rights and planning projects to improve education;
12. Calls for the EU to develop stronger links with the SPLM/A, ideally involving also other groups engaged in conflict in the South, and to try to engage in a process parallel with the political dialogue being conducted with the Government of the Sudan;
13. Considers it important that the EU Heads of Mission based in Khartoum increase their coverage of all areas of the Sudan, covering political issues as well as humanitarian aid and sustainable support and human rights;
14. Calls on the Commission to significantly increase the staff in the EU Delegation in Khartoum, in the light of the implementation of existing projects now under way and in view of the additional EU action called for in this resolution;

#### **The oil issue**

15. Believes that oil production has increased the stakes in the civil war;
16. Calls on the GoS to publish a clear statement of all of its revenues and expenditures which would show the purposes to which oil money was being put;

17. Considers that the GoS would improve its own position, and increase the chances of a durable peace in the whole country, were it to ensure that oil revenues were used to a greater extent to alleviate hardship and strengthen the economy;

18. Feels it important that those oil companies operating in the Sudan should increase their employment of people from the oilfields region and expand their involvement in providing health services and basic education, as well as developing in-house training programmes;

#### **Humanitarian aid — relief and development**

19. Is seriously alarmed by the growing food crisis in Northern and Western Darfur, as well as elsewhere in the Northern Sudan Climatic Transition Zone, and calls on the GoS to attach a high priority to dealing with drought and hardship in these areas;

20. Calls on the EU, its Member States and other donors or potential donors to maintain and expand supplies of food and medicines to the distressed population in these areas;

21. Considers it vital for the existing early warning systems to be continued and for such systems to be extended to cover the whole Northern Sudan Climatic Transition Zone;

22. Calls on the GoS to establish means of providing humanitarian aid to all affected populations under its control, in particular in the Nuba Mountains and the southern Blue Nile regions;

23. Welcomes the decision to implement the Humanitarian Plus programme and the open attitude of the GoS to accept the arrangements making this programme possible; would welcome the supplementing of this programme with other projects subject to the successful progress of current projects and advances in the EU-Sudan political dialogue;

24. Believes that the SPLM/A should not seek formal control over any EU funding, which would allow for a resumption of humanitarian assistance, to be implemented by NGOs, churches and UN agencies;

25. Calls on the EU to examine ways of supporting civil society in both north and south, and also to significantly improve basic education;

#### **The Lord's Resistance Army**

26. Welcomes the cessation of GoS military support for the LRA, but asks it to consider how essential food and medical supplies could be provided to the abducted children held by them;

27. Calls on the GoS and the SPLM/A to refrain from direct attacks on LRA positions in consideration of the danger for the lives and safety of the abducted children;

28. Welcomes the fact that channels for the reception and repatriation of those abducted children who escape or are captured have been established both by the GoS and the SPLM; considers that these should be expanded and improved, as should liaison with the Ugandan authorities, with the EU making funds available to meet any identified need;

29. Asks all parties to fully support the efforts of the Carter Center to bring about an acceptable resolution of the LRA issue, and considers that any supplementary efforts should be closely coordinated with them;

30. Welcomes the fact that the Government of Uganda and the Government of the Sudan have re-established diplomatic relations and appreciates the joint effort of the two governments, through the Carter Center and other possible avenues, to create dialogue with Joseph Kony for the purpose of the dissolution of the LRA and the release of the abducted children;

31. Calls on EU Member States to ensure that all legal means are used to counter the provision of any active support for the criminal activities of the LRA from their territories;

32. Asks that the EU consider appointing a special representative to assist the peace efforts being made and underline the political importance it attaches to them, with such a person monitoring the situation of children affected by armed conflict in this region and ensuring that EU declarations and European Parliament resolutions are followed up with the requisite action;

33. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the UN and African Union Secretaries-General, the Government of the Sudan, the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and to the Government of Uganda.

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#### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

##### **on the crisis facing the Caribbean tourism industry**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

— meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,

- A. recognising that the events in the United States of America on 11 September have had an immediate impact on the global travel and tourism industry, with worrying consequences for the Caribbean region as one of the most tourism-dependent regions of the world where economic growth and development are tourism-led,
- B. recalling that the future prospects for the Caribbean tourism industry now look bleak as international tourism arrivals continue to decline sharply, and that the World Bank has noted that the immediate impact of 11 September in the Caribbean was such that 65 % of the holidays booked were cancelled, and that as a result, hotel occupancies in some Caribbean destinations are currently as low as 15 %,
- C. noting that before 11 September one in every four Caribbean persons was employed either directly or indirectly in the travel and tourism industry and that the sector's contribution to the GDP of Caribbean countries in 1999 ranged from 13 % in Trinidad and Tobago to 69 % in St Lucia,
- D. recognising that the Caribbean travel and tourism sector was already suffering a decline because of the downturn in the US and European economies, and that 11 September has exacerbated the major structural problems facing the industry — such as low investment levels and declining European and US airlift into the region — that the region was beginning to address,
- E. acknowledging that the impact of the crisis in the Caribbean tourism sector is particularly acute for the small island economies of the region, where economic activity is not diversified and there is no substitute for tourism as a source of income and employment,
- F. recognising that Caribbean countries lack the resources to put in place short-term assistance packages for their travel and tourism sectors, and acknowledging that higher air transportation costs will further reduce the international competitiveness of the Caribbean tourism sector,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- G. recalling Article 24 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou (Benin) on 23 June 2000, and its 'Compendium', which recognise the significant and increasing importance of tourism to the growth of the services sector in ACP countries and to the expansion of their global trade, its ability to stimulate other sectors of economic activity, and the role it can play in poverty eradication,
- H. reaffirming its resolution on tourism and development adopted during the second session of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly session held in Libreville (Gabon) from 19 to 22 March 2001,
1. Calls on the Commission, the EU Member States and the ACP countries to recognise that the Caribbean tourism industry is in crisis and that poverty in the region is likely to increase as a result of increasing unemployment and reduced revenues caused by the downturn of the tourism sector;
  2. Calls on the Commission and the EU Member States to continue to implement the provisions of Article 24 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement and all other provisions in the agreement that might provide emergency assistance to the tourism sector;
  3. Calls on the Commission, the EU Member States and the ACP countries to recognise that tourism is an export industry that is traded internationally and to explore all appropriate means of providing the sector with short-term support to mitigate the adverse effects of the current instability in export earnings from tourism, including Article 68 of the ACP- EU Partnership Agreement;
  4. Stresses the importance of undertaking a diagnostic study to examine the viability of the Caribbean tourism industry in the light of changing circumstances within the global travel and tourism sector and to identify how best to address the major structural problems such as competitiveness, low investment levels and declining US and European air transportation that the industry is keen to address;
  5. Calls on the Community and EU Member States to consider with European tour operators and airlines all possible ways of supporting the Caribbean tourism sector;
  6. Welcomes the initiative taken by CARICOM Heads of Government to convene a Special (Emergency) Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government on the Caribbean Community's response to the events of 11 September in the USA, aimed at assessing the impact of these events on the region's security and economic survival and determining the necessary responses to reduce the impacts;
  7. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council and the Commission.
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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on damage caused by Hurricane Iris to Belize**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
- A. having regard to Article 72 (1) of the Cotonou Agreement, which refers to the provision of humanitarian and emergency assistance to ACP states faced with 'serious economic and social difficulties of an exceptional nature resulting from natural disasters ...',
- B. recalling that Article 73 focuses on 'post-emergency action, aimed at physical and social rehabilitation consequent on the results of natural disasters ...', stating that this action 'must ease the transition from the emergency phase to the development phase, promote the socio-economic reintegration of the parts of the population affected ...',
- C. noting that on 8 October 2001 Hurricane Iris struck Belize with winds of 225 kph and tidal surge of up to five metres, causing massive devastation to the southern districts of Stann Creek and Toledo,
- D. noting the extensive destruction of housing in the region, leaving 13 000 people homeless, these being mainly indigenous persons many of whom are below the poverty line,
- E. noting further the widespread damage to the productive sector, especially citrus and aquaculture, and in particular the decimation of the banana industry,
- F. considering that 95 % of the tourism facilities on the peninsula of Placencia were severely damaged or destroyed, thus compounding the already negative impact of the 11 September terrorist attack on the US,
- G. noting the significant damage to the environment, specifically the forest cover, coastal ecosystems and marine resources, and the damage to the country's transport infrastructure,
- H. acknowledging the offer of the EC to provide EUR 500 000 for emergency humanitarian assistance,
- I. considering that the total damage caused by the hurricane has been assessed at USD 200 m or 25 % of Belize's GDP for 2000 and that a Recovery Management Strategy has been approved by the Government, based on a close partnership with civil society and the international community,
- J. considering that Article 72 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement states that the Community shall take the steps necessary to ensure speedy action in response to the immediate needs of the affected areas;
  - 1. Calls on the European Union to implement the provisions of Article 72 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement by providing adequate resources to assist with the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the affected areas;
  - 2. Calls on the European Union to assist in the provision of support in the post-emergency phase and in the building of capacity and the transfer of technology that will, in the future, contribute to Belize's ongoing initiatives to bring about a reduction in the impact of any similar disaster;

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

3. Calls on the European Union to encourage the international community to assist in the rebuilding process and to support programmes of disaster prevention;
4. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council and the Commission.

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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>**

**on the situation in the Pacific**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to its previous resolutions on the Pacific region, particularly the situation in the Solomon Islands,
- A. whereas the Solomon Islands have experienced ethnic tensions and political turmoil,
  - B. whereas organisations like the Pacific Regional Forum are moving towards establishing a free trade area for the Pacific, which would encourage economic growth and sustainable development in the Solomon Islands and other ACP countries in the region,
  - C. acknowledging and supporting the initiative of the Pacific ACP ministerial fact-finding mission to the Solomon Islands as an excellent model in inter-ACP cooperation in conflict resolution under the Cotonou Agreement,
  - D. whereas the Government of the Solomon Islands have scheduled elections for December 2001,
  - E. whereas the Government of the Solomon Islands have invited the European Parliament and the Joint Parliamentary Assembly to observe these elections,
1. Calls on the Solomon Islands authorities to organise the coming elections in a completely transparent way and to ensure that all ethnic communities and other sectors of society are guaranteed their right to participate in the elections;
  2. Calls on all sides in the Solomon Islands to respect the Townsville and Marau Peace Agreements and to guarantee the safety and human rights of the civilian population;
  3. Supports all efforts, including those by Australia and New Zealand and the Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands, Mannasseh Sogavare, to create national unity and reconciliation;
  4. Welcomes the European Parliament's decision to send five observers to the elections in the Solomon Islands;
  5. Calls on the EU Council and Commission to provide financial and technical assistance for the preparation of the elections and to send observers to monitor these elections, including Members of the European Parliament;
  6. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Commonwealth, and the Government of the Solomon Islands.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on the report on the JPA observer mission to the Fiji elections**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - recalling its previous resolutions on the Pacific Region and with specific reference to the situations in Fiji Islands,
  - recalling the declarations by the EU Presidency on the situation in Fiji of 29 May 2000 and 25 July 2000,
  - having regard to the communication from the Commission to the Council of 24 July 2000 on the opening of consultations with the Republic of Fiji Islands under Article 366a of the Lomé Convention (Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement),
- A. whereas organisations like the Pacific Regional Forum are moving towards establishing a free trade area for the Pacific, which would encourage economic growth and sustainable development in the Fiji Islands and the ACP countries in the region,
- B. whereas Fiji has experienced ethnic tensions and political turmoil over the past 18 months,
- C. whereas general elections took place in Fiji on 25 August-1 September 2001,
- D. whereas members of the ACP-EU JPA acted as observers and whereas the UN Fijian Electoral Observation Mission concluded that the voting results reflected the will of the Fijian people,
- E. noting that the appointment of the new Cabinet in Fiji is the subject of court challenges by one of the political parties and in that regard further notes the public commitment by the new Prime Minister that he will abide by the decision of the courts in this matter,
- F. whereas the resumption of EU cooperation with Fiji is dependent on having had free and fair elections and the formation of a government that is in conformity with the constitution of Fiji,
1. Congratulates the Fijian people and all parties concerned for the peaceful and orderly manner in which the general elections took place;
  2. Notes that the international observers for the recent elections in Fiji have made suggestions on improvements in the electoral system for future use and urges the relevant authorities in Fiji to give consideration to these suggestions;
  3. Calls on the Government of Fiji to abide by the decision of the courts in relation to its formation;
  4. Calls on all elements of Fijian society to work together in a spirit of reconciliation to restore inclusive democratic rule in Fiji;
  5. Calls on the EU to resume full cooperation with Fiji in line with the relevant Council declarations;
  6. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Commonwealth, and the Government of Fiji.

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on migration**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
- having regard to the relevant international legal instruments, to which the Member States are signatories, in particular the 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the 1995 Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,
- having regard to the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 31 August-7 September 2001,
- having regard to the Final Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in Durban on 8 September 2001 by the World Conference Against Racism,
- having regard to Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin and having regard to the progress made towards acceptance of diversity in Europe,
- having regard to its previous resolutions on combating racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism,
- having regard to its previous resolution on immigration adopted in October 1999,
- A. whereas immigration is a result of economic disparities, the widening gap between rich and poor countries, civil war, wars for control of natural resources, political persecution and environmental degradation,
- B. whereas the adoption of a common approach to legal immigration by all EU Member States is based on the fact that pressures to migrate will continue and that regulated immigration will be advantageous to the EU, the immigrants and their countries of origin,
- C. whereas the EU Member States' current immigration policy, aimed at curbing migration flow, has led to an increase in illegal immigration without achieving the declared objectives,
- D. concerned about the human tragedies and deaths that occur daily around the world when immigrants and refugees are refused entry into countries or attempt to bypass official procedures,
- E. whereas illegal immigration leaves many vulnerable to exploitation by criminal traffickers, and trafficking in children is an unacceptable practice which must be penalised and eradicated,
- F. condemning human trafficking, which involves exploitation of some of the world's poorest people by clandestine immigration networks for profit-making purposes alone and with complete disregard for the dignity of human life,
- G. whereas co-development must form part of an integrated vision of European cooperation and immigration policies,
- H. highlighting the major contribution made by ACP nationals legally resident in EU Member States to the economy of the European Union and its social development and welcoming moves by EU Member States towards full integration of these nationals into social, economic, cultural and political aspects of the EU,

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- I. whereas, despite the efforts undertaken at international level and in the European Union, acts of racist violence against immigrants and minority groups are continuing to increase in Europe and world-wide,
- J. stressing the duty of EU Member States that take in immigrants to ensure that immigrants are not subject to discriminatory treatment compared with their own nationals,
- K. whereas ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic diversity has a stimulating effect on society both in the European Union and in the ACP,
1. Firmly condemns the traffic in human beings and the economic exploitation of immigrants, stressing that, if the situation is to be properly managed, extensive measures are needed in addition to the combating of illegal immigration;
2. Mindful that the principles of asylum and refuge are recognised in international law and the common *acquis* of mankind, and that they should not be limited by inclusion in the framework of restrictive immigration policies;
3. Calls on the EU Member States to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, regardless of the migrant's immigration status;
4. Calls on the EU Member States to take concrete measures against racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to ensure that all persons residing legally in the EU enjoy equal social, economic, political and cultural rights, including the right to vote;
5. Emphasises also that states must adopt concrete measures without delay to honour the commitments they made in Durban to fight racism: the adoption of stronger anti-racist laws on the basis of the principle that 'racism is a crime', information and awareness-raising campaigns in the media and educational establishments, training programmes against intolerance, in particular for the police and those working in the field of justice, legal action against parties and groups with a racist or xenophobic ideology, and gender mainstreaming in action to combat racism;
6. Stresses that special attention should be given to women migrants so as to avoid gender-related racial discrimination;
7. Welcomes the fact that slavery and the slave trade were recognised as a crime against humanity in Durban; considers this recommendation to be a historic victory;
8. Demands greater commitment from the EU Member States and the European Commission to promotion of the social and economic development of poor countries as a means of managing migratory flows, which will persist so long as the prosperity gap remains and increases;
9. Condemns the shameful traffic in children and calls on the authorities of the countries from which these children come to take the necessary measures to put an end to this inhuman practice;
10. Considers that a responsible and sustainable migration policy must focus on conflict prevention, stronger international rules on the arms trade, and promotion of sustainable development, education and democracy in the countries of emigration;
11. Considers that social, economic and political development of the world's poorer nations can provide structural alternatives in reducing illegal or clandestine immigration;

12. Calls on all wealthy developed countries to honour their undertakings to earmark at least 0,7 % of their GDP to North-South cooperation policies, and calls on the developing countries to use at least 30 % of their budget for social, educational and health development policies in accordance with the Copenhagen criteria;
13. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council and the Commission.

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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>**

**on food security**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to the upcoming World Food Summit,
  - having regard to the EU-Africa Ministerial meeting on 11 October in Brussels,
  - having regard to the forthcoming WTO negotiations in Doha, Qatar, from 9 November until 13 November 2001,
  - having regard to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Climate Change, in particular the Kyoto Protocol,
  - having regard to the OAU's Model Law for the Protection of the Rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders and for the Regulation of Access to Biological Resources, and to the OAU's Draft African Biosafety Model Law,
  - having regard to its previous resolution on poverty alleviation, trade and food security,
- A. whereas the persistence of chronic hunger and widespread food deprivation suffered by the majority of the population in developing countries have undermined the right to food and nutritional well-being as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
  - B. whereas the international community committed itself, at the Rome World Food Summit in 1996, to halving the number of undernourished people from 800 million in 1996 to 400 million in 2015,
  - C. whereas current data indicates that the number of undernourished people is falling at a rate of 8 million each year, far below the average rate of 20 million per year needed to reach the World Food Summit's target,
  - D. whereas hunger, malnutrition and the exclusion of millions of people from access to food are consequences of economic, agricultural and trade policies,
  - E. whereas sustainable food security, in particular through the establishment of strategic food reserves with the ultimate aim of rendering food aid unnecessary, is one of the immediate objectives of the economic policies of many ACP countries,
  - F. recognising the work of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and looking forward to the World Summit on Sustainable Development bridging the divide between the wealthy North and the poor South inter alia by the achievement of the Millennium Summit targets,

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<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- G. whereas the Commission must work with other international bodies such as the UN and the OECD to build coherent policies on trade, macroeconomic management, regional integration, key economic sectors and environmental concerns,
- H. whereas removing trade barriers to international trade in agricultural products is seen as a viable option in order to increase food security,
- I. whereas the WTO talks in Qatar must focus on food security and the needs of developing nations by allowing free but fair trade globally,
- J. whereas food security remains an important aspect of the European Community's policy of cooperation with the ACP countries and developing countries in general,
- K. whereas some natural resources are being overused and industrial activities pursued without much thought for the environment, leading to the build-up of harmful pollutants, or to the depletion of resources affecting the needs of future generations,
- L. noting that governance determines the institutional and policy approaches that are adopted regarding resource management, and that one of the major stumbling blocks to sustainable development is the lack of intersectoral planning and coordination between government and all other stakeholders at the policy and planning level,
- M. noting that sustained cooperation and coordination regarding water use policies and policy implementation is essential to avoid future inequitable use, cross-border pollution and conflict,
- N. whereas food security and sustainable development are not just confined to land but also affect the sea, with one billion people dependent on fish stocks — which will require universal cooperation on data-collection, stock surveillance, control and enforcement,
- O. whereas global fish stocks have started to collapse and the rivers, land and atmosphere in some regions have become so polluted that agriculture and human health have begun to suffer, causing enormous financial and environmental costs in trying to remedy the situation,
- P. whereas some major donors of food aid, such as the EU, permit local purchasing while the rules followed by other donors preclude this,
- Q. reiterating that food aid and any form of assistance to food security strategies, programmes and projects should not be used as an instrument for political and economic pressure,
- R. whereas the technology gap between the ACP and the EU has widened significantly in the last decade, due in particular to the differing development benefits derived from information and communications technology,
1. Calls for the recognition of food sovereignty and security as a basic democratic right of all countries;
  2. Believes that food security must be guaranteed by ensuring that the right choices are made as regards methods of production and consumption that are compatible with protecting health, the environment and sustainable development;
  3. Calls for the recognition of the right of the developing countries to protect their internal food market;

4. Calls, in accordance with Article 20 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture which takes into account non-trade concerns, for a gradual and substantial reduction of export subsidies by the developed countries, and for an evaluation to be carried out on the harmfulness of EU export subsidies to the development of agriculture and food security in the ACP states;
5. Asks the Commission to continue to build on the 'Everything But Arms' proposal, which may be seen as an encouraging first step in respect of the poorest countries, by introducing new measures such as guaranteeing prices for products from the least developed countries, increasing quotas for products from developing countries and allowing 'cumulative' exports by the least developed countries via other developing countries in the region, where agricultural products from the least developed countries acquire added value as a result of further processing;
6. Calls on the donor community to shift the emphasis towards assistance in cash as this has the advantage of keeping producer prices from falling precipitately which may lead to the collapse of the food security strategy in many ACP countries;
7. Emphasises that European agricultural products may only be used for food aid if agricultural production in the target region itself is insufficient for supplying food aid;
8. Calls for a radical reduction in barriers to agricultural exports from poor countries, reflecting their varying levels of development, which should include lower tariffs, expanded tariff rate quotas and progressive elimination of tariff peaks and tariff escalation while tariffs on tropical agricultural products must at all events be removed;
9. Calls for a full assessment of the impact of current trade liberalisation policies on food security in ACP countries and demands that the result of this assessment be used to formulate clear guidelines to address the problems of food security;
10. Emphasises that the existing arrangements in the Marrakesh agreement on agriculture should be fully implemented;
11. Urges the recognition of the specificities and trade and development needs of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), particularly their requirement for food security which can be met by financing foodstuffs imports from adequate and stable earnings derived from their preferential exports to the EU and the markets of other developed countries; calls on the WTO in this regard to provide special and differential treatment;
12. Supports African countries' opposition to the patenting of life and considers that patenting of all living organisms should be banned;
13. Considers that patents on seeds and genetic resources for food and agriculture threaten sustainable farming practices, increase corporate monopolies over technologies, seeds, genes and medicines; supports therefore the proposal, made by developing countries led by Africa, to modify the TRIPS agreement in order to exclude patents on all forms of living organisms;
14. Insists in particular on the need to recognise the right of states to refuse to grow genetically modified crops, as they increase dependence on some multinationals and present potential risks for health and biodiversity;
15. Calls on all wealthy developed countries to honour their undertakings to earmark at least 0,7 % of their GDP for North-South cooperation policies;
16. Calls for the adoption by governments of strategies that create a balance between social, economic and ecological needs, including community-based resource management programmes focused on collaborative conservation efforts on communal land, biodiversity programmes promoting community involvement and harnessing traditional knowledge, and management strategies including environmental impact assessment;

17. Emphasises that the governments of the ACP countries can ensure a climate favouring sustainable agricultural development within their countries through a series of measures such as enlarging cooperation at a regional level to improve the markets for agricultural products; developing education programmes for local farmers; ensuring cooperation with local organisations of farmers, especially women, when developing and implementing national farm policies; ensuring the existence of locally well managed water-supply schemes; and promoting and sustaining local seed banks;

18. Urges the international donor community to give all necessary financial, technical and diplomatic assistance to those ACP countries that are perennially affected by drought to utilise their water resources within the limit of sustainable conservation and environment management;

19. Calls on the European Community to increase its support for development projects giving priority to basic education and health as decided by the European Parliament in the budget process; insists also on the importance of rural development and specifically on water and soil conservation, terraces, check-dams, small-scale irrigation, micro-dams, access roads, schools and clinics;

20. Calls for progress in democratic access to land as a necessary condition for food security and asks the Commission to provide support to developing countries undertaking land reform programmes of genuine benefit to the people at large, within the framework provided for by law;

21. Is of the opinion that the commitment regarding a dialogue between EU and ACP countries laid down under the Cotonou agreement should also be observed in connection with the reform of the CAP in order to ensure that the ACP interests are fully taken into account, particularly to safeguard the benefit ACP countries derive from the preferential export of certain commodities;

22. Asks the Commission to ensure that, for each specific market sector, proposals for reform of the CAP are examined for consistency with development policy, to ascertain whether they interfere with the development of agricultural markets in developing countries;

23. Calls for a European programme for developing countries for knowledge transfer and capacity expansion, including essential development of institutions, diversification of production and exports and assistance with adaptations seeking to comply with quality and food safety (veterinary and phytosanitary) requirements, as well as dealing with other problems on the supply side which hinder the development of agricultural markets and exports from developing countries while financing for these programmes could be found in CAP funds;

24. Urges the Commission to review current arrangements for fisheries agreements with developing countries that are mutually beneficial to the EU and such developing countries, in order to ensure that stocks are sustainably utilised and local production capacity is increased;

25. Urges all ACP and EU Member States involved in the Kyoto process to ratify the Protocol and start reducing emissions of carbon dioxide in order to reduce the environmental impact on food supplies;

26. Calls for assistance in addressing and removing barriers to the introduction and transfer of climate-friendly technologies;

27. Calls on the governments at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to draw up an implementation plan — the Johannesburg Plan of Action — to cement a meaningful, practical and committed global partnership of all major groups to resource and manage the plan;

28. Calls for an agreed definition of the relationship between development, economics and trade, as well as a set of conclusive agreements on financing for sustainable development;

29. Calls on the EU to assist in bridging the digital divide by means of technology transfer, information exchange and technology partnerships, by improving affordable access to sustainable development technologies for ACP countries;

30. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the UN Secretary-General, UNCTAD, the WTO, the FAO, the IFAD, the IUCN, the World Bank and the IMF.

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## RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

### on the rights of disabled people and older people in ACP countries

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
- whereas 10 % of the population in developing countries have a disability and 20 % of the population are directly affected by disability <sup>(2)</sup>
- having regard to United Nations Resolutions 46/91 on Principles for Older Persons <sup>(3)</sup> and 48/96 on Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities <sup>(4)</sup>,
- whereas 5,1 % of the population in developing countries are aged 65 and above and this is set to rise to 6,5 % by the year 2015 which represents an absolute increase of 52 % <sup>(5)</sup>,
- A. recognising that the needs and interests of disabled people, older people and their families are not adequately addressed in the development policy of most countries across the globe and that this needs to change,
- B. noting that the United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities led to political recognition and advocacy for the human rights and social model of disability,
- C. noting that the United Nations Principles for Older Persons of 1991 supports the rights of older people to participation, dignity, independence, self-fulfilment and care,
- D. considering that no decisions or actions concerning disabled people or older people and their families should be undertaken without their full involvement and consultation via their representative organisations,
- E. whereas the Commission and EU Member States must work with other international bodies such as the World Health Organisation, World Bank and UNDP to increase expenditure and outcomes to improve the health systems in developing countries,

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<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: World Health Organisation.

<sup>(3)</sup> UN Resolution 46/91, 16 December 1991.

<sup>(4)</sup> UN Resolution 48/96, 20 December 1993.

<sup>(5)</sup> Source: US Bureau of the Census.

- F. whereas many developing countries lack the facilities and health services capable of dealing with disabled people and the disorders and illnesses of old age,
- G. recognising that poverty is the main threat to disabled people and older people and there is an essential need to incorporate the disability and age dimension into poverty indicators and interventions, and recognising that barriers faced by disabled people and older people — especially disabled women and older people with disabilities — to employment, income support, health care and community development programmes must be addressed as a priority,
- H. noting the increasing burden of disease affecting the physical and mental health of older people, which may partly result from a variety of forms of abuse and exploitation,
1. Calls on the Council of the European Union and the European Commission to recognise and promote the UN Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the UN Principles for Older Persons in their guidelines for all development work and to introduce special measures to ensure that people with disabilities and older people participate in society;
  2. Calls on the Council of the European Union and governments of the ACP countries to increase the use of the various UN human rights instruments to promote and protect the basic human rights and freedoms of disabled and older people;
  3. Urges upon the Council of the European Union and the European Commission the need to support the range of support services for the benefit of disabled and older people and their families including community-based rehabilitation, home-based care and resource centres;
  4. Calls on the Council of the European Union and the European Commission to fund capacity-building measures for organisations for disabled people and older people in ACP countries, so they have a strong voice and are consulted on matters which concern them;
  5. Calls on the EU to fulfil its obligations to the World Social Summit in Copenhagen — the 20-20 initiative — in which participating governments committed themselves to increase the share of funding for social development programmes and agreed a mutual commitment to allocate 20 % of overseas development assistance and 20 % of the national budget to social programmes;
  6. Calls on all developed countries to honour their undertakings to earmark at least 0,7 % of their GDP to North-South cooperation policies so as to enable emerging economies to support adequate levels of social expenditure;
  7. Recognises that 2003 marks the European Year of People with Disabilities and calls on the Council of the European Union and the European Commission to give disabled people particular attention in EU development cooperation policy throughout 2003 and to work with other international bodies, such as the WHO, UNDP and World Bank, to create joint plans to tackle disability issues;
  8. Recognises that 2002 marks the year of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, and calls on the Council of the European Union and the European Commission to adopt the International Strategy for Action on Ageing by allocating sufficient means — both political and financial — and by giving older people particular attention in EU development cooperation policy;
  9. Recognises that the HIV/AIDS pandemic is removing the generation of support who would otherwise be caring for older people, thus requiring the latter to find ways of earning a living to provide for themselves and their grandchildren, and urges the EU and international agencies to address this growing problem;

10. Calls on the Council of the European Union and the European Commission to review its commitment to the International Development Targets and ensure the poverty of disabled people and older people is included in the setting of benchmark indicators and the design of poverty alleviation strategies;
11. Calls on the EU and WHO to work with ACP partners in the mapping of health indicators for older and disabled people and of health determinants as to the causes of illness and disability;
12. Calls on the EU institutions to support the African Decade of Disabled People (1999-2009) by means of political and financial commitments;
13. Calls on the Council of the European Union and the European Commission to include people with disabilities and older people in all relevant development cooperation policies and programmes, on the basis of the UN Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the UN Principles for Older Persons;
14. Considers that adequate monitoring and evaluation of commitments made to disabled people and older people in developing countries must be undertaken in cooperation with organisations for disabled people and older people, in order to properly assess levels of successful implementation;
15. Calls on the European Commission to produce a communication on the needs of disabled people and older people in development cooperation;
16. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the WHO, the UNDP and the World Bank.

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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>**

**on HIV/AIDS**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to its earlier resolutions on AIDS,
  - having regard to the resolution of the Council of Development Ministers on 10 November 2000 on communicable diseases and poverty,
  - having regard to the major international conferences on AIDS and communicable diseases and in particular to the Extraordinary Session of the UN General Assembly in June 2001,
  - having regard to the European Parliament's report on communicable diseases adopted in Strasbourg on 4 October 2001,
- A. whereas the scale and spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria in developing countries is cancelling out their development efforts by undermining their political, social and economic structures, since 35 million AIDS sufferers in developing countries are condemned to die if they do not have access to treatment soon,
- B. whereas HIV/AIDS has reached pandemic proportions, killing about 10 000 people each day, and has already orphaned over 13.2 million children, and in some countries HIV/AIDS-related treatment costs will soon absorb over half their health budgets as four million people in sub-Saharan Africa were newly infected with HIV in 1999,

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<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- C. whereas access to health care is part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and inability to secure treatment through lack of access to medicines and social exclusion, especially of women, destabilises families, precipitates poverty and undermines the political stability of poor countries,
- D. welcoming the creation of a Global AIDS and Health Fund, announced at the Extraordinary UN General Assembly on AIDS in June 2001, which seeks to boost considerably the funds allocated for the prevention of, and access to, treatment for AIDS, TB and malaria,
- E. whereas an interim working party headed by Dr Crispus Kiyonga, the former minister of health of Uganda, and including representatives of countries of the North and the South as well as leaders of the relevant NGOs, has been set up to make proposals on areas of intervention for the Global Aids and Health Fund, its financing arrangements, its structure and the forms its intervention could take,
- F. stressing that only a comprehensive programme of prevention based on a global investment by the international community can relieve the poor of the scourge of HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, and calling for more efficient use of available funds based on a coordinated effort by the EU, UN agencies, civil society, NGOs and private sector organisations to fight communicable diseases,
- G. whereas comprehensive measures to fight HIV/AIDS have not been implemented as social, cultural and religious traditions pose problems for some governments,
- H. whereas the Commission's February 2001 communication on a programme of action includes a commitment to tiered pricing where developing countries pay the lowest possible price for medicines, an acknowledgement of the possibility of exploring the best use of compulsory licensing systems and a commitment to launch a debate in the WTO on reconciling the TRIPS agreements with the objectives of health protection in developing countries,
- I. whereas Article 31 of the TRIPS Agreement permits a country to enact national laws permitting the use of patented product without the authorisation of the patent-holder (compulsory licensing) under certain specified circumstances),
- J. whereas the meeting of the TRIPS Council on 19-21 September 2001 did not succeed in eliminating all the ambiguities and differences, particularly on the arrangements for the application of the safeguard clauses laid down in Article 31 of TRIPS,
- K. regretting that the WTO's draft Ministerial Declaration on intellectual property, access to medicines and public health issued on 22 October 2001 does not reflect the position expressed by the developing countries, in that it does not conform with either the letter or the spirit of their draft declaration published on the occasion of the TRIPS Council on 19 and 20 September 2001,
- L. noting with concern that the external debt and the structural adjustment programmes imposed by the industrialised countries to pay it off have impoverished the developing countries and considerably weakened the public education, health and research sector in most of the developing countries,
- M. whereas pharmaceutical companies must continue to explore ways of reducing prices and maintain supply of anti-retroviral drugs and medication for TB and malaria,
- N. whereas only 10 % of global research and development is directed towards illnesses that account for 90 % of the worldwide disease burden,
1. Recalls that effective and coherent action to combat AIDS and the communicable diseases by which the developing countries in particular are afflicted must involve:

- prevention, which must take the form of information and education campaigns (stressing the crucial importance of involving women, in view of their preponderant role in health education), immunisation programmes and the promotion of better living conditions,
  - treatment, which implies access to medicines — including anti-retroviral medicines — and the availability of health structures and staff,
  - research on effective vaccines and medicines appropriate to the needs of developing countries;
2. Welcomes the forthcoming launch of the Global Aids and Health Fund and the public or private financial contributions already announced; and believes that a global approach and fund financed by G8 and oil-rich nations are essential to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria and are urgently needed in sub-Saharan Africa if the spread of these diseases is to be halted and reversed by 2015;
  3. Welcomes the Commission's announcement of an initial contribution of EUR 120 million to fund the initial activities of the Global Aids and Health Fund programme, but stresses that this contribution should on no account be deducted from other appropriations for development and should be entered in the 2002 draft budget under a specific heading seeking to confirm its permanent nature;
  4. Considers it essential that this fund should be operational as soon as possible, and at any rate before 15 December 2001 (the deadline after which the Commission will no longer be able to commit its contribution to the 2001 budget), and should be given clear and transparent procedures to permit the flexible and rapid funding of its activities on the ground;
  5. Calls for the definitive structure of the Global Aids and Health Fund and the membership of its statutory bodies to respect the principle of equal representation between North and South and guarantees representation by NGOs from the North and the South involved in the fight against AIDS and the improvement of public health;
  6. Considers that the criteria for the eligibility of countries and projects under the Global Aids and Health Fund must meet the essential requirement of giving the widest possible access to preventive action and treatment;
  7. Encourages economic and business leaders to build on the recently created United Nations Global Compact and to work with the International Partnership Against AIDS to address jointly the social, economic and political problems brought about by AIDS by contributing to the Global Aids and Health Fund programme;
  8. Recognises and supports the work being done by the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS and urges the Commission and EU Member States to cooperate closely with UNAIDS and all international donors who are active in the fight against AIDS, such as the World Bank, Unicef, UNDP, UNFPA, UNDCP, Unesco, WHO and the EU, to coordinate policies and adopt a uniform approach and ensure that structural adjustment programmes take the HIV/AIDS pandemic into account;
  9. Stresses that the Commission and EU Member States cooperate effectively and share expertise, political and financial commitments; and calls on ACP countries intending to make infrastructure improvements not to cut expenditure on health and education budgets but to allocate an appropriate level of national resources to health;
  10. Stresses the need to guarantee in the long term increased and reliable funding — including access to EU Research Funds — for R&D programmes on AIDS, malaria, TB and all diseases which particularly affect the countries of the South (sleeping sickness, leishmaniosis, etc.);

11. Calls on governments in the developing world to allocate an appropriate level of national resources to build health infrastructure to provide bioanalytical laboratories for diagnostic testing, train medical technicians and establish day care centres in rural areas to scan, diagnose, monitor and record patients suffering from HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria;
  12. Calls on the Commission to ensure African governments urgently plan and allocate resources for comprehensive national AIDS programmes coordinated within their geographic region to have the maximum impact on migrating populations requiring access to basic health — including reproductive health — and education services; and urges the Commission and EU Member States to help developing nations strengthen their legislation to protect AIDS victims from social and employment related discrimination;
  13. Urges EU Member States to cancel third world debt for those countries willing to increase investment in their health and education budgets since Africa alone pays the world's richest nations annually USD 15 billion in debt repayment whilst the total domestic and international spending on AIDS is just USD 300 million;
  14. Calls on the Commission and on the Member States to pursue a policy appropriate to the cancellation of the debt of developing countries and to stop imposing directly, or influencing the imposition of, structural adjustment programmes, which impoverish developing countries and prevent them from combating major epidemics;
  15. Calls for a special programme of AZT treatment for infected women and their new-born infants, since most of the latter can be spared HIV infection, provided that they also receive special aftercare;
  16. Calls on the Commission to monitor closely trials of new AIDS, TB and malaria vaccines and to encourage continued research into other potential vaccines against communicable diseases; and calls on the Commission, WHO and UNAIDS to support the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, to investigate ways of making anti-AIDS drugs available at lower prices in developing countries;
  17. Calls for the forthcoming review of TRIPS to include a comprehensive assessment of its effects on the affordability and availability of medicines in developing countries; calls on the EU and its Member States to defend within the WTO the right of developing countries to produce, market and import affordable medicines, and a harmonisation of the TRIPS regime with the Convention on Biodiversity;
  18. Welcomes the TRIPS Council's recent acknowledgement that AIDS and other pandemics can be deemed to be 'national emergencies' within the meaning of TRIPS, but stresses at the same time that specific declarations and clarifications are needed at the WTO Summit in Qatar, and calls in particular for specific confirmation that, within the framework of compulsory licences, production of medicines may take place in a third country;
  19. Urges the Member States of the EU and the European Commission to express their clear and unambiguous support for the position of the developing countries on the interpretation of the TRIPS agreement, by incorporating into the Ministerial Declaration to be adopted by the WTO in Doha a specific acknowledgement that recourse is permitted to the safeguard clauses contained in the TRIPS agreement, and confirming in particular that nothing in the TRIPS agreement must be used to prevent WTO members from taking measures to protect public health (paragraph 1 of the developing countries' draft declaration) and that no proceedings may be brought before the WTO against countries having recourse to these safeguard clauses;
  20. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the European Commission, the UN Secretary-General, the World Health Organisation, the World Trade Organisation, UNAIDS, the UNDP, UNICEF, the UNFPA, the UNDCP, UNESCO, the World Bank, the OECD, the Council of Europe, the European Investment Bank and the World Economic Forum.
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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on WTO negotiations**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to its previous resolutions on WTO negotiations,
- A. whereas international trade has made a major contribution to job and wealth creation; however the benefits have not been evenly spread; the least developed countries' share of world trade has declined and many developing countries are encountering export problems such as high tariffs, quotas and limited capacity in information and communication technologies,
- B. whereas freer but also fairer and more sustainable world trade must be consolidated under the multilateral system and within a reformed WTO; whereas a rule-based system is the only way of ensuring in a peaceful and equitable manner that its benefits accrue to all nations; whereas international rules and institutions are required to deal with the interaction between trade and other areas such as the environment, health or social standards,
- C. whereas the multilateral trade system is based on the GATT rules, drawn up in 1947, whose preamble says that 'relations in the field of trade and economic endeavour should be conducted with a view to raising standards of living, ensuring full employment...' and the agreement goes on to state that 'the attainment of these objectives is particularly urgent for less-developed contracting parties', and the preamble to the 1994 agreement establishing the WTO added that these objectives must be pursued 'in accordance with the objective of sustainable development, seeking both to protect and preserve the environment',
- D. whereas the new Partnership Agreement emphasises the importance of trying to make the WTO rules more flexible so that they take into account the relative level of development of the ACP countries,
- E. whereas ACP and EU efforts in international forums and in connection with international agreements need to be strengthened and coordinated with a view to making the ACP countries sufficiently competitive to enter the international market,
- F. whereas the objective set out in the preamble to the WTO constituent agreement (higher living standards, full employment and the promotion of sustainable development) and the WTO's own action plan for LDCs demonstrate that there is a legitimate need for poor countries to be treated differently, for which reason a change to the rules is essential if the above objectives are to be achieved,
- G. having regard to the importance of concluding alliances between the ACP countries and the EU in order to ensure substantial flexibility in the interpretation and implementation of WTO rules, so that full account is taken of development interests and the ACP countries' problems and so that commitments relating to special, differentiated treatment are actually honoured,
- H. whereas, according to the 2001 UNDP report, one of every five of the world's inhabitants — 1,2 billion — lives on less than one dollar per day and whereas there are over 50 countries whose per capita income is lower today than it was 10 years ago,
- I. whereas ACP states have a very limited share of import markets and of global trade, with most having a share of world merchandise trade of less than 0,05 %,

<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- J. whereas small developing economies, especially small islands, have no capacity to distort international trade,
- K. whereas Annex VII of the WTO agreement on subsidies and compensatory measures provides that only those countries with a lower relative level of development (with a per capita income of less than USD 1 000 per year) may keep incentives in place,
- L. whereas there is a great need to enhance the participation and influence of legislators in the work of international organisations such as the WTO,
- M. whereas the WTO is an intergovernmental organisation which is in principle run entirely by its Member States, but in fact some of them are marginalised because of non-inclusive working methods or because they are not, or not effectively, represented in Geneva owing mainly to insufficient technical assistance and funding,
- N. whereas implementation of the Uruguay agreements has given rise to serious disappointment in the developing countries because of the conditions for application of the agreements by the industrialised countries and by the developing countries respectively, the cost of applying certain agreements, and the non-participation of many developing countries in decision-making within the WTO,
- O. mindful of the recent initiative by the WTO Director-General to set up an advisory group of experts tasked with drawing up reform proposals,
- P. whereas the first few years of operation of the WTO have given rise to considerable public concerns, which were expressed at the Seattle Conference, with regard to the taking into account in trade policy of issues such as environmental protection, observance of the precautionary principle, compliance with social standards, access to medicines for AIDS patients in the developing countries or the limits to the marketing and patentability of living organisms in particular,
- Q. mindful of the ILO Director-General's proposal of 11 June 2001 to set up a commission on the social dimension of globalisation which will be established after the ILO's final decision in November 2001,
- R. whereas clarification is needed on some clauses of the agreement on services, to make clear that WTO rules do not impede the right of Member States to regulate and intervene in services of general interest,
- S. whereas Article 177 of the EC Treaty refers to solidarity with the developing countries and the European Union must make an effective contribution to defining the outlines of a form of governance for development involving rapid reforms to WTO rules,
1. Notes that the world trade system currently suffers from unequal participation, the uneven distribution of the benefits of world trade, the ambiguity of some of its rules and their impact on non-trade issues, a lack of internal and external transparency, and a low level of involvement of parliaments and civil society in the work of the WTO; insists that broader reform is needed than has so far taken place;
  2. Considers it logical therefore that the necessary reforms should be carried out before any new issues are added to the WTO agenda;
  3. Notes that the WTO is not the only component of the world trade system, considers that the same principles of openness and democracy should be applied *pari passu* to regional and bilateral trade agreements and calls on the Commission to observe such principles in all its bilateral and international trade negotiations;

**Legitimacy, equal participation, internal transparency, capacity building**

4. Points out that the democratic legitimacy of the WTO, an intergovernmental organisation, in principle relies firstly on the equal participation of all members in decisions; notes, however, that none of the 24 developing countries that are WTO members have a permanent representation at WTO headquarters in Geneva and that many other countries have only very small delegations which do not enable them to follow all the work that concerns them; considers it vital to remedy this marginalisation and to ensure effective participation of all members in the working of and in decision-making within the WTO;
5. Notes also that many negotiations take place in small groups from which poor countries are in reality excluded;
6. Is concerned at the difficulties encountered by non-member LDCs involved in accession procedures and at the level of commitment demanded of them which is higher than that of existing member countries; asks the Commission to revive its proposal for a fast-track accession procedure;
7. Calls on the Commission and the EU Member States to support the efforts of the developing countries, specially the LDCs, to set up joint permanent regional representations at the WTO and to continue to provide support in this respect to the ACP countries and to resource centres such as the 'Advisory Centre on WTO law';
8. Calls on the Commission to propose, on behalf of the EU, to mainstream existing trade-related technical assistance, to identify the gaps for developing countries and to strengthen the WTO's budget, on the basis of a contribution proportional to each member's share of international trade, to enable all members of the WTO to have fair representation in Geneva and to increase the resources available for technical assistance to developing countries and, in particular LDCs;
9. Calls for a commitment by the world leaders gathered at the WTO to coordinate measures to help developing countries tackle the impediments to growth in their trade as regards flows of information, protection of property rights, institutions for efficient repayment of loans, access to the judicial system for the poor and illiterate, access to open bank accounts, non-bureaucratic registration of companies and partnerships, and the lack of small business clubs at village and district levels to solve problems alongside national decision-makers;
10. Calls, pending permanent representation of all members in Geneva, for the strengthening of the existing early warning system, to be established to enable non-resident countries to be informed at a sufficiently early stage that new negotiations or decisions are to be submitted to a particular body so that they can prepare themselves, and for the planning of meetings within the WTO to enable all delegations, even the smallest, to participate or to be represented; requests that all members should have rapid access to records of meetings of bodies (councils, committees, working parties, etc.) in which they have been unable to participate and to all the information they need to follow the work under way in the various bodies;
11. Calls for an explicit reference to the objectives of the eradication of poverty to meet the development target of the UN, the promotion of equitable and sustainable development and environmental protection to be inserted at the fourth Ministerial Conference in Doha in the preamble to the Agreement setting up the WTO;
12. Asks that the provisions on special and differentiated treatment in trade agreements for the promotion of certain specific interests of the developing countries and for the provision of technical assistance to these countries be made fully operational and made effective in order to preserve the ACP-EU *acquis*;
13. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the technical assistance and capacity building programmes within the 'Integrated Framework' help the LDCs not only to apply the agreements, but also to defend their interest better in negotiations from the point of view of their development strategy and to influence the formulation of trade policies; asks that the strengthening of analytical capabilities should be addressed as a matter of urgency in the first stages of new multilateral trade negotiations;

14. Asks the Commission to ensure better coordination between multilateral and bilateral donors, particularly EU Member States, in the area of technical assistance to the developing countries;

15. Regards the WTO dispute settlement system as a particularly sensitive element of the trade system and international relations; is concerned at the growing number of disputes and is convinced that political relations between countries cannot totally be replaced by judicial relations and invites parties involved in trade disputes to try to find political solutions and compromises; proposes in this connection that Article 7 of the Dispute Settlement Understanding be revised to encourage compensation schemes, including temporary ones, rather than recourse to sanctions;

16. Draws attention to the inequalities between member countries with regard to the sanction established by the dispute settlement system; proposes therefore that Article 7 of the disputes settlement agreement be revised to encourage the use of financial compensation schemes to remedy these inequalities;

17. Is concerned that a lack of clarity in some parts of the WTO agreements has led to an excessive reliance on the disputes procedure to interpret and clarify agreements; therefore calls for clearer agreements, to allow the disputes procedure to operate more predictably on the basis of texts negotiated by governments and ratified by parliaments;

18. Calls on the EU to propose to other members the establishment of clear rules on informal consultations: the latter should be initiated by the chairman of a WTO body or its DG, the agenda and list of participants should be distributed to all members and no country should be excluded if it wishes to participate; calls for sufficient time for all delegations to undertake consultations with capitals and for the results to be the subject of a formal report to the relevant WTO bodies and communicated to all members which would increase the balance between transparency and efficiency;

19. Notes that the TRIPS agreement is the only WTO agreement containing substantial provisions enjoining, like a 'directive', the WTO member countries to amend their internal legislation in an area under their national jurisdiction;

20. Underlines the importance of an intellectual property system that encourages technology transfer towards developing countries with particular reference to the knowledge-based society; is well aware, however, of the difficulties faced by developing countries in implementing the TRIPS Agreement and reiterates therefore its call on the WTO and the Commission to step up technical assistance in this area and calls also for a detailed re-examination of the impact of the TRIPS agreement on developing countries, including its effect on the transfer of technology, access to medicines and the protection of traditional knowledge, and its conformity with the Convention on Biodiversity and the Protocol on Biosafety;

#### **External transparency and openness**

21. Considers that transparency in the formulation and conduct of trade policy is a legitimate demand of society, citizens and parliamentarians;

22. Points out that within the WTO a general rule of openness should apply, meaning that the vast majority of documents should be derestricted and published on the WTO website, and supports the Commission proposal that all documents, records and decisions should be published;

23. Advocates, in the dispute settlement procedure, that substantive meetings with the parties, meetings of panels and the appellate body, given the judicial nature of the procedures, should in future take place in public, as is customary in court proceedings, and documents, in particular submissions by parties or experts, should be made available to the public, except in rare, duly substantiated, exceptional cases; calls for the creation of a legal aid office financed from the WTO budget to assist the least well represented countries in acceding to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB);

24. Insists that some external bodies such as the Codex Alimentarius, on which the WTO relies for external advice, also require radical reform to restore public confidence and meet elementary standards of openness;

#### **Parliamentary and public scrutiny and parliamentary forum**

25. Proposes once again the creation of a parliamentary assembly within the WTO with consultative powers and instructs its delegation to the WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha to organise, in close cooperation with other parliamentary organisations, a meeting of the parliamentarians present to promote this initiative;

26. Stresses the need for a provisional infrastructure for the parliamentary assembly until the WTO assumes its responsibilities in this respect and, at the same time, offers the necessary facilities for this purpose;

27. Considers that it is also important to develop political debate at national parliamentary and existing regional assembly level and stresses, therefore, the central importance of participation of parliamentarians in the decision-making process in order to carry out effective democratic control;

28. Considers that the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM) in its current form does not satisfy the requirements of informed public debate; advocates therefore reform of the TPRM to include the social, environmental and development impact of trade policies and an evaluation of how trade policy is formulated and monitored, including the role of parliaments and civil society;

29. Considers that it is essential, not least for the WTO's legitimacy, that its rules should not prevent member countries from pursuing independent and ambitious policies and their parliaments from legislating freely and legitimately in the areas of public health, environmental and consumer protection, and the cultural and education spheres, but such policies should not lead to arbitrary erection of trade barriers, where such barriers are not necessary to achieve public policy objectives;

30. Calls for clarification of the scope of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) to ensure adequate protection that public and social services remain the legitimate concern of governments and calls on the Commission to deliver a political declaration clearly guaranteeing the protection of public and social services under national and regional jurisdiction;

#### **Coherence and new international architecture**

31. Calls for the WTO's cooperation with other multilateral organisations to be strengthened, in particular with organisations responsible for social and environmental standards; requests that such organisations be granted observer status within the WTO and that arrangements be established to allow them to participate in WTO bodies; calls for the establishment of clear rules on the relationship between WTO Treaties and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such that WTO rules do not constitute an obstacle to the implementation of MEAs;

32. Calls for the dispute settlement procedure to be revised to provide that, in cases involving non-trade issues covered by other international conventions, the panels or the appellate body should seek the opinion of the relevant international organisations and that this opinion should be published and appended to the ruling;

33. Calls for the WTO and the United Nations to examine new relations between international organisations so as to ensure coherence in international regulatory agreements and conventions;

34. Recommends the strengthening of the trade-related competences of other international bodies, such as the FAO, WIPO, the ILO, the WHO and the MEA secretariats, in order to reconcile better trade considerations and international environmental, health and social standards;

35. Invites the Commission and ACP and EU Member States, with a view to the fourth WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, to propose the setting up of a working party within the WTO charged with submitting proposals for reform of the functioning of the WTO to the General Council and members as soon as possible; calls on the Joint Parliamentary Assembly standing committee on trade matters to provide input into the WTO negotiations;

36. Calls on the Commission, and ACP and EU Member States to urgently take necessary action with a view to obtaining, as soon as possible and at best before the fourth WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, a WTO waiver in respect of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement;

37. Urges the ACP countries — assisted by the Commission and the EU Member States — to create the conditions necessary for free and fair trade to succeed by establishing the rule of law, good governance, democracy, and respect for human rights and individual freedoms;

38. Asks the Commission to undertake and to publish an assessment of the impact on ACP economies (job creation, health, education, environment, etc.) of the current liberalisation of trade and future benefits of any agreement reached in Qatar;

39. Welcomes the Council's Regulation on 'Everything But Arms' and calls on other developed countries and trading blocks to follow the EU's lead so that world markets become genuinely open to trade, taking into account existing preferential trade agreements, particularly Annex XXIII of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement on the need to safeguard the benefits ACP states derive from their trading arrangements with the EU;

40. Insists that pressure be maintained for the admission of new members to the WTO, so that the WTO does not become an instrument of global economic differentiation but evolves into a truly global guarantor of international trading standards;

41. Affirms that WTO rules should take into account the right of developing countries to implement national and/or regional agricultural policies which promote food security and other non-trade concerns;

42. Calls for the WTO to recognise the constraints on vulnerable small island countries, and allow for special and differential treatment for such countries;

#### **Free Zones**

43. Calls on the WTO member countries to allow the ACP countries to continue granting fiscal measures intended to promote development, including those provided in free zones and through other fiscal incentive schemes, until 2015 by adopting a binding ministerial decision at the Fourth Ministerial Conference which is to be held in Doha (Qatar) from 9 to 13 November 2001, on the understanding that this is not a derogation of international labour, environmental and human rights standards;

#### **Implementation and Related Issues**

44. Reaffirms that trade preferences remain crucial to increasing ACP countries' shares in international trade and that they should continue to be meaningful, secure and predictable;

45. Stresses the need to address the specific problems and inherent constraints of small economies and of vulnerable island and land-locked ACP states, which are increasingly being marginalised; considers that the Doha WTO Ministerial Declaration and decisions should reflect their needs, address their specific problems and agree on the relevant work programme;
46. Affirms that nothing in the TRIPS Agreement should prevent developing countries from taking measures for the protection of public health and ensuring affordable access to essential medicines and life-saving drugs;
47. Expresses its deep disappointment at the lack of meaningful progress on the implementation issues which are important for the developing countries, particularly the ACP states, and therefore calls on the fourth WTO Ministerial Conference to address these issues and adopt the necessary decisions in Doha, Qatar, including the removal of existing imbalances arising from the Uruguay Round Agreements and the effective implementation of the Marrakesh decisions;
48. Supports the establishment of mechanisms to effectively address issues such as trade and debt, trade and finance, trade and transfer of technology, that have been raised by developing countries in the preparatory process for Doha;
49. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission, the UN Secretary-General, the WTO, the World Bank, the IMF and the European Investment Bank.

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#### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

##### on rum

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to previous ACP-EU Joint Assembly resolutions on rum adopted on 23 March 2000 in Abuja, 14 October 1999 in Nassau, 1 April 1999 in Strasbourg, 23 April 1998 in Port Louis, 20 March 1997 in Brussels, 3 February 1995 in Dakar and 6 October 1994 in Libreville,
  - having regard to the resolutions on rum adopted on 13 October 2000 and 22 March 2001 at its first session in Brussels and its second session in Libreville,
  - having regard to the trade development objectives of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000,
- A. recalling the Partnership Agreement's recognition of the importance of the commodity protocols and of safeguarding the benefits derived therefrom as well as its recognition that the process of liberalisation could lead to a deterioration in the relative competitive position of ACP states and could threaten their development efforts,
- B. noting the EU's commitments in the Partnership Agreement to being as flexible as possible in respect of its involvement in the pace and nature of the ACP's transition and integration into the world economy so as to protect ACP economies in the face of rapid and increasing globalisation,
- C. emphasising that Declaration XXV — the Joint Declaration on Rum — of the Partnership Agreement recognises the importance of the rum sector for the economic and social development of several ACP countries and regions and the unique challenges it faces resulting from the European rum market's liberalisation outside the post-Lomé agreement,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- D. also recalling the EU's commitments in the above mentioned Declaration to providing rapid and sufficient special transitional support during the period 2000-2008 for an integrated sector-specific programme to enable ACP rum exporters to increase competitiveness and assist the ACP rum industry to move out of bulk commodity production into higher value branded rum products to allow exporters of ACP rum to compete on the Community and the international spirits markets,
- E. emphasising the precedent-setting nature of the ACP rum industry's experience as the first ACP industry in economic transition, the preparedness of the EU to provide support, and the positive indication that rapid delivery and a successful outcome will provide to other ACP industries in economic transition after 2008 as they move towards new WTO-compatible trade reciprocity with the EU,
1. Expresses concern at the fact that the Financing Proposal in respect of the programme to develop the competitiveness of the Caribbean rum industry in accordance with the political commitments agreed in Declaration XXV of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement was submitted to the European Development Fund Committee for approval on 20 September 2001 and was withdrawn;
  2. Urges the European Union and its Member States to approve the financing proposal without further delay and to take full cognisance of the fact that as the European Union's rum market will be liberalised on 1 January 2003 there is very little time left in which to even begin to put the Caribbean rum industry on a competitive footing;
  3. Notes with concern in the context of EU enlargement that a product described as rum, but not conforming to the definition of rum as contained in Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1576/89, is produced in Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia and reiterates the necessity of strict enforcement without derogation or other variation of this rule limiting commercial use of the term 'rum';
  4. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council and the Commission.

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#### RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>

#### **on the special situation of BLNS countries (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland) in future trade negotiations**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

— meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,

- A. noting that the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) between Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa is one of the longest lasting and deepest regional integration arrangements in Africa,
- B. taking note of and welcoming the progress made in renegotiating a new mutually beneficial agreement between the SACU partners,
- C. taking note of and appreciating the fact that the Commission has acknowledged that the bilateral Trade Development and Cooperation Agreement with South Africa places the other SACU partners, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland (BLNS countries) in a position that differs in important respects from that of other Cotonou countries,

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(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- D. noting in particular that while the Cotonou Agreement sets out a number of different options for future ACP-EU trade relations, none of these options applies to BLNS countries, who by virtue of their membership of SACU find themselves obliged to implement the reciprocal trade obligations applicable to South Africa under the terms of the TDCA,
- E. believing that this means, in particular, that BLNS will find themselves
- facing the introduction of free trade with the EU far faster than any other ACP country (by 2012 instead of 2020),
  - facing a free trade area agreement which was not designed primarily with their economic structures and levels of development in mind,
  - subjected to a far greater degree of free trade in their relations with the EU (86 % of currently traded goods) than appears likely to be the case for other ACP countries,
  - subjected to free trade with the EU without any corresponding improvement in access for BLNS exports to the EU market in areas of immediate benefit,
  - facing significant fiscal revenue losses as a result of the elimination of tariffs on trade with the EU,
- F. further noting that, if the existing provisions for access to the EU market of the EU-South Africa TDCA were simply extended to BLNS economies after 31 December 2007, then they will face a loss of trade preferences and the reintroduction of import duties on a substantial proportion of the goods they currently export to the EU,
1. Therefore calls on the EU to:
    - (a) Take immediate steps, in consultation with BLNS, to establish an appropriate institutional mechanism to address the particular concerns of BLNS;
    - (b) Establish mechanisms to consolidate existing BLNS trade preferences beyond 2007 and bring about an immediate improvement in access for BLNS exports to the EU market in areas of real benefit;
    - (c) Establish mechanisms for direct consultations with BLNS governments on areas of concern in the introduction of duty-free access for EU exports;
    - (d) Make firm and binding commitments on assistance with fiscal restructuring in BLNS commensurate with the revenue losses arising as a result of the implementation of the EU-South Africa TDCA;
    - (e) Revise the Economic Integration Support Programme for BLNS so as to remove the linkage between the release of the funds and BLNS concurrence under the provisions of the SACU agreement and to provide for decentralised implementation in each of the BLNS countries in ways appropriate to the particular circumstances faced in each country;
  2. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council and the Commission.
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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on sugar**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to its resolution on sugar adopted at its second session in Libreville from 19 to 22 March 2001,
  - having regard to the adoption on 19 June 2001 by the European Council of the common organisation of the market in the sugar sector, in particular the renewal of the EU sugar regime for a further period of five years,
- A. stressing that the parties to the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation recognised that their relations in the field of trade and economic endeavour should be conducted with a view to, inter alia, ensuring full employment and sustainable development while seeking to protect and preserve the environment and recognising the need for positive efforts to ensure that developing countries secure a fair share in the growth of international trade,
  - B. reiterating that the ACP Sugar Protocol is an integral part of the EU sugar regime and the Protocol quantities are bound in the EU's WTO commitments, thereby providing legal security of access to ACP Protocol Sugar into the EU,
  - C. noting that the ACP sugar-supplying states are either least-developed, developing, net-food-importing, vulnerable, landlocked or island states with specific economic and social difficulties which rely on sugar revenue for their socio-economic development,
  - D. recognising that the inherent natural, physical and structural constraints do not generally allow for horizontal diversification of their agriculture and the topography of most ACP sugar-supplying states does not lend itself to other crops, and all adversely affect the competitiveness of ACP sugar industries,
  - E. emphasising that ACP sugar-supplying states have been utilising the vital foreign exchange earnings from exports to the EU in their rationalisation programmes to improve efficiency, increase productivity and generally help maintain their level of competitiveness,
  - F. noting the ongoing agriculture negotiations under Article XX of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture which have to take into account, inter alia, non-trade concerns, special and preferential treatment of developing countries and the objectives of establishing a fair and equitable market-oriented agricultural trading system,
  - G. acknowledging that ACP sugar-supplying states have also made judicious use of the earnings from sugar exports to the EU to optimise the use of by-products and moreover promote meaningful diversification in other sectors of their economies,
  - H. recognising the multifunctional role that the sugar industry plays in ACP supplying states as a major employer and its contribution to environmental protection and rural development,
  - I. welcoming the successful conclusion between the European Union and the ACP sugar-supplying states of a new Special Preferential Sugar Agreement (SPS) for the period 2001-2006, which will help to increase export earnings, and partly contribute towards alleviating the negative effects resulting from the EU's restrictive pricing policy since 1986 and enhancing investments in the respective countries,

<sup>(1)</sup> Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

- J. noting the adoption by the EU General Affairs Council on February 26, 2001 of the revised 'Everything But Arms' proposal and recalling the support of the ACP Ministers of Trade for the initiative, as contained in their Declaration of 12 December 2000, whilst insisting that it should respect existing agreements and take into consideration the special situation of vulnerable, small-island and landlocked states,
- K. deeply concerned that the SPS quantities under the annual bilan have undergone and will undergo progressive deductions as a result of the EBA initiative, thus depriving ACP sugar-supplying states of variable export earnings for their developmental needs,
- L. having regard to Article 38 of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, wherein both parties agreed to pay special attention to current multilateral trade negotiations and to examine the impact of the wider liberalisation initiatives on ACP-EC Trade and the development of ACP economies, and make necessary recommendations with a view to preserving the benefits of ACP-EU trading arrangements, as well as the terms of reference of the ACP-EU Joint Ministerial Trade Committee which was set up in May 2001 under Article 38 of the Cotonou Agreement,
- M. also recalling the Joint Declaration (Annex XXIII) on market access of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement by which the parties agree to examine all measures in order to maintain the competitive positions of the ACP states on the Community market, and wherein the Council of the European Union underlines its obligation to take into account the effect of any agreement or other measures to be taken by the EC on ACP-EC Trade,
1. Calls on the European Union to:
    - (a) Ensure that every effort is made to defend, maintain and honour the commitments given to the ACP under the Sugar Protocol and the Special Preferential Sugar Agreement;
    - (b) Consider the significant and vital contribution that predictable and stable earnings derived from sugar exports have made to economic development and poverty alleviation and the fight against social exclusion resulting from globalisation in ACP supplying states and the promotion and sustenance of democracy and the respect for human rights and fundamental freedom;
    - (c) Acknowledge the multifunctional nature of sugar, particularly its role in environmental protection and rural development in ACP sugar-supplying states;
    - (d) Honour its obligations in accordance with the provisions of Article 38 and the Joint Declaration XXIII of the Cotonou Agreement;
    - (e) Recognise the need to adopt urgently positive measures to address the adverse effects of the implementation of the 'Everything But Arms' initiative on several non-LDC ACP sugar exporting countries, and urgently examine ways and means to share more equitably the burden of the implementation of the EBA initiative on the sugar sector;
    - (f) Acknowledge also the contribution of ACP sugar industries to the EU refining industry and, moreover recognise the mutual benefit to the parties derived from the Sugar Protocol and Special Preferential Sugar Agreement;
  2. Calls on the Commission of the European Communities and the ACP General Secretariat to review in accordance with Annex XVIII of the Cotonou Agreement the situation created by the EBA and accordingly make recommendations to the next meeting of the ACP-EU JMTC and Council;
  3. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission and the ACP General Secretariat.
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**RESOLUTION <sup>(1)</sup>****on the fight against terrorism**

*The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,*

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 October to 1 November 2001,
  - having regard to Security Council Resolution 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001,
  - having regard to Security Council Resolution 1269 (1999) of 12 September 1999 condemning all acts of terrorism, irrespective of motive, wherever and by whomever committed, and reaffirming that the suppression of international terrorism, including that in which states are involved, is an essential contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security,
  - having regard to UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001,
  - having regard to the European Parliament recommendation of 5 September 2001 on the role of the European Union in combating terrorism,
  - having regard to the Africa-Europe Ministerial Conference of 11 October 2001,
- A. recognising that terrorism is manifested in violation of international law and customary practices,
  - B. deeply shocked by the murderous terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, in particular, and previous terrorist attacks elsewhere in the world,
  - C. whereas these terrorist attacks, and terrorist activities in general, constitute a crime against humanity and the values of an open, democratic, multicultural society and, as such, are a threat to international peace, stability and security,
  - D. whereas combating terrorism first of all requires a criminal justice approach as well as a stronger crime prevention policy at international level; whereas it is necessary to ensure that such an approach is consistent with respect for the fundamental freedoms which form the basis of civilisation; whereas it is urgent for the international community to establish the International Court of Justice,
  - E. whereas the USA and the United Kingdom started military strikes against targets in Afghanistan which have been going on for the last four weeks and which entered a new phase on 20 October with the deployment of special forces for actions on the ground,
  - F. deeply concerned by the increasing number of casualties among the civilian population,
  - G. recognising the international community's determination to fight terrorism within the bounds of international human rights laws and principles,
1. Expresses its solidarity with the people and the Government of the United States and its sympathy with the injured and the bereaved families of the victims from the USA and many other countries who suffered as a result of terrorist attacks;
  2. Recognises the heroism displayed by the emergency services of New York and Washington, notably the fire fighters, many of whom gave their lives to save others, and commends the selfless courage of the passengers who overpowered the hijackers of the fourth plane at the cost of their own lives, but saving countless others;

(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 1 November 2001 in Brussels (Belgium).

3. Condemns the shameless misinterpretation of Islam, a religion which is governed by a commitment to peace, by those who committed these murderous acts, and reaffirms that measures against terrorism should be reconciled with respect for fundamental freedoms and in this context expresses its full support for and solidarity with European Muslims and with Muslims in the ACP and EU countries;
4. Calls on the regime in Kabul to implement the Security Council Resolution demanding the handing over to international justice of those responsible for the attacks;
5. Calls for the continuation of political and diplomatic efforts to bring peace to Afghanistan and for the involvement of the women of Afghanistan in any resolution of the conflict and in all efforts to establish, and to participate in, a broad-based and representative post-conflict government;
6. Underlines that, independently of the current developments, the Afghan people are affected tremendously by international terrorism and the Taliban regime and calls therefore for a major humanitarian effort to be undertaken;
7. Calls on the Commission to assign particular priority to cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in connection with the problem of Afghan refugees;
8. Believes that there is no cause or objective, however noble or sacred, that can validate the use of violence and terrorism against civilians and urges the international community to give a highest priority to addressing the political, economic and social problems of those countries that serve as hotbeds of regional conflict and terrorism due to the absence of accountable democratic government or the collapse of social, political or other forms of hierarchies;
9. Welcomes the declaration of the Africa-EU Ministerial Conference of 11 October to support the initiative of the OUA Summit in Algiers, in July 1999, which called for the convening of an International Conference on Terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations;
10. Welcomes Senegal's initiative in holding a conference in Dakar on 17 October 2001 for the adoption of a draft African pact against terrorism, and calls on the African states to ratify as soon as possible the Algiers Convention on combating terrorism adopted by the OAU Summit in July 1999;
11. Supports the call made by the European Union for the broadest possible coalition against terrorism under the aegis of the United Nations;
12. Shares the conclusion of the EU Council that the fight against terrorism will be all the more effective if it is based on an in-depth political dialogue with those countries and regions of the world in which terrorism originates and on continuing investment and support for conflict prevention activities, and insists that ACP and EU relations with third countries continue to be based on the essential principles of human rights, democracy and good governance;
13. Urges in particular the ACP and EU to step up their fight against uncontrolled and illegal arms exports and the world-wide proliferation of heavy weaponry and light weapons, as well as the fight against chemical and biological weapons;
14. Calls on the ACP-EU Council and EU Member States to cooperate with the Government of the United States on the basis of Resolution 1368 (2001) in finding the perpetrators, organisers and sponsors of the attacks as well as all those who protected them; considers that all actions have to be appropriate and targeted, avoiding damage to innocent civilians and their property;
15. Welcomes the renewed commitment by the European Council to bringing peace to the Middle East; demands in this context the prompt re-establishment of a dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians on the basis of all the recommendations outlined in the Mitchell report in order to reach a comprehensive settlement in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council;

16. Takes the view that the strengthening of police and judicial cooperation, particularly for the purpose of fighting terrorism, must be accompanied by a strengthening of parliamentary and judicial control and maintained protection of fundamental rights and liberties;
  17. Encourages the police forces and the intelligence services of the ACP and EU Member States to work closely together in trying to fight global terrorism and bring those responsible to justice;
  18. Urges the international community to establish a strong mechanism that enables efficient exchange of information and expertise on terrorist acts and establish databases for the collection and analysis of information on terrorist groups, elements, movements and organisations, and opposition groups that are bent on terrorist methods of pursuing political objectives, and governments that support, fund and train groups to wage a proxy war against other countries;
  19. Welcomes the calls by the European Council, the United Nations General Assembly and the OAU for the implementation of all existing international conventions on the fight against terrorism, and therefore calls on the ACP and EU Member States, where appropriate, to speed up the process of accession and/or ratification and effective implementation of the existing conventions on terrorism, including the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999), so far ratified by only one EU Member State;
  20. Calls for the ratification of the statute of the International Criminal Court, linked to the United Nations system, with jurisdiction over the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole;
  21. Urges the ACP-EU Council to promote security measures with regard to all forms of public transport, particularly aviation and shipping, as well as with regard to industrial installations and nuclear power plants;
  22. Calls on the relevant international organisations to present to the Joint Parliamentary Assembly a report on the effects of the terrorist attacks on the world economic situation;
  23. Encourages the ACP and EU Member States to take joint measures to block capital movements funding terrorist networks and hopes that the financial markets will reorganise in such a way as to increase the role of the supervisory authorities and fight insider trading and money laundering; takes the view that banking secrecy should not stand in the way of investigations into the funding of international terrorism;
  24. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the Commission and the Government and Congress of the United States of America.
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