

14.07.08

Dear ,

You may not have received this e-alert for some time due to a technical glitch in our system. You can see previous issues at: Can see archives at: www.ecdpm.org/news

This is the weekly e-alert on ACP-EU News.

Information provided in weekly e-alerts is available via daily updated RSS feeds which can be found on the ECDPM website's News and Events page www.ecdpm.org/news. You can view all information or select feeds according to specific topics of interest. You may find these easier to read. And they are also available to any organisation to post on its own internal or external websites. This e-alert and previous issues are also available in PDF format at:

http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Content/Content.nsf/7732def81ddd7ac1256c240034fe65/2f9cc239d94a300bc1257344004ddd21?OpenDocument

I need to improve the quality of the weekly e-alert with information and analysis from beyond what's available on the internet. If you have a moment to pass on anything that could usefully be included I'd be most grateful. It will be non-attributable of course (unless you prefer otherwise). If you provide information, then others will too with information useful to you.

All the best,

Melissa

ACP-EU News
Weekly E-alert
14.07.08

New at ECDPM

*ECDPM have pleasure in announcing the following vacancies:

-Senior Adviser on Institutional & Capacity Development

To develop certain cross-cutting areas of expertise, the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) is looking for a creative, inspiring senior individual for a long term position to work with programme staff in strengthening the quality and impact

of its dialogue, networking and capacity development activities in the context of ACP-EU cooperation.

Your long-term proven experience in Institutional and Capacity Development and your abilities to facilitate internal learning and capacity building processes will allow you to plan, manage and integrate state-of-the-art knowledge and lessons learned into the Centre's programmes.

Closing date: 1st September 2008

-Research Assistant for the Economic and Trade Cooperation Programme

The European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) is looking for a creative individual for a 6 to 12 month assignment to execute activities that will maximize the impact of the Centre's dialogue, networking and capacity development activities in the context of ACP-EU cooperation.

Your expertise will allow you to assist in the research and execution of activities of the centre's ACP-EU Economic & Trade Cooperation Programme as well as to assist the manager of the website www.acp-eu-trade.org

Language requirements: Native-French level and fluent in English

Closing date: 28th July 2008

-Office Assistant to our Brussels Branch

The European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), an international non-profit organisation, is looking for a proactive individual who is able to work independently and accurately 80% part-time for a long term position to support our pied-à-terre in Brussels.

Your relevant Professional Education or equivalent and preferably a few years of experience in a hectic, multi cultural environment as well as your proficiency in French and English will allow you to support our academic staff in the best possible way.

Closing date: 27th July 2008

For further details and application forms, please visit:

<http://www.ecdpm.org/vacancies>

*La politique de développement de l'Union européenne – Un regard personnel sur 50 ans de coopération internationale

ECDPM is delighted to be able to mark 50 years of European cooperation by publishing the account of an observer and a protagonist of the many events described in this paper. This paper, essentially historic in nature, examines how development cooperation came about in the Community and then the Union in order to shed light on the past and ensure that the origins of this staunchly international side of our Union are not lost from sight. This paper looks at the main ways in which the EU's development policy evolved during three periods: from Rome to Lomé, from Lomé to Maastricht and from Maastricht to Lisbon.

The paper is now available for download in French on the website:

<http://www.ecdpm.org/pmr15f>. The English version will be available as of September 2008.

http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Fr_Content/Content.nsf/0/4169BB62BB6EDF03C1257439003B9E71?OpenDocument#

*New Europeafrica.org website

After a long process, we have finally launched the new Europeafrica.org website! We do not only present a complete new layout and design, but also specific News and Resources on the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and its Action Plan.

These are the new features in detail:

[The Joint Africa-EU Strategy](#): Find out everything about the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, its public consultation in 2007 and its implementation process.

[EU-Africa dialogue](#): Learn about the history of the relationship, the frequency and level of meetings, the actors that play a role in the dialogue, the ENP as a part of the Africa-EU Strategy and the joint Summits between Africa and EU.

[Civil Society](#): Get to know more about the involvement of the civil society organisations during the public consultation for the Joint Strategy and their contribution to implementation process since January 2008.

[EARN](#): Welcome our new initiative - EARN! It is a network composed of African and European Policy Research Institutes aiming to contribute to the Africa-EU Policy Dialogue.

[Key Documents](#): Keep yourself updated with documents on and related to the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and EU-Africa more generally.

[Europeafrica.org Bulletin](#): Subscribe to our Bulletin which provides you with an update on the implementation and monitoring process of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy.

<http://europeafrica.org/2008/07/09/new-website-3/>

*In the framework of the trade capacity building programme for ESAMI/TRAPCA, which is funded by Trade.com, a European study tour is currently taking place. Eight of the senior staff of ESAMI have been in Geneva for a week, where they received 2 day training on agricultural trade from UNCTAD, met with various departments at WTO, ICTSD and Advisory Centre for WTO Law. They then spent 3 days at the University of Pavia where they were trained on quantitative methods on trade policy and are now in Brussels for a set of visits at the EC (DG Dev and Trade), will meet with various embassies, the Belgian Ministry of foreign affairs, the European Parliament, COLEACP, the ACP secretariat and the AU mission. They will end their tour in Amsterdam where they will go to the Common Fund for Commodities.

*Monitoring Economic Partnership Agreements. Inputs to the negotiations and beyond DIE-ECDPM Study. 2008

[http://www.die-gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/\\$FILE/Studies%2037.2008.pdf](http://www.die-gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/$FILE/Studies%2037.2008.pdf)

General Reports/News of Contextual Interest

*Chronic Poverty Report 2008-09: Escaping Poverty Traps. Research4Development.

This report argues that tackling chronic poverty is the global priority for our generation. There are robust ethical grounds for arguing that chronically poor people merit the

greatest international, national and personal attention and effort. Tackling chronic poverty is vital if our world is to achieve an acceptable level of justice and fairness. There are also strong pragmatic reasons for doing so. Addressing chronic poverty sooner rather than later will achieve much greater results at a dramatically lower cost. More broadly, reducing chronic poverty provides global public benefits, in terms of political and economic stability and public health. The chronically poor are not a distinct group. Most of them are 'working poor', with a minority unable to engage in labour markets. They include people who are discriminated against; socially marginalised people; members of ethnic, religious, indigenous, nomadic and caste groups; migrants and bonded labourers; refugees and internal displacees; disabled people; those with ill health; and the young and old. In many contexts, poor women and girls are the most likely to experience lifelong poverty. Despite this heterogeneity, we can identify five main traps that underpin chronic poverty.

<http://www.research4development.info/SearchResearchDatabase.asp?OutputID=177520>

*The pre-eminent need today is not an exclusive club of democracies, but renewal of the world's global architecture. FT 10.07.08

The next American president should not begin his term by pushing for a Concert of Democracies. He should, however, consult with democracies around the world to explore support for the idea in the context of pushing for reform of existing global institutions. If such support exists, and we suggest it does, America should be willing to join with other democracies in making those institutions reflect the global distribution of power among all countries in the 21st century.

http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/fd9e2fdc-4e7f-11dd-ba7c-000077b07658.html?nclick_check=1

Major ACP-EU Events/Debates

*Work programme of the French Presidency
July–December 2008

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st11/st11305.en08.pdf>

*Statement by French President on France EU Presidency priorities 10.07.08

<http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs/schedule.cfm?date=07/10/2008>

*European Parliament Summary of EU Presidency speech on priorities 10.07.08

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/008-33857-189-07-28-901-20080709IPR33856-07-07-2008-2008-true/default_en.htm

*List of EU Council preparatory bodies 08.07.08

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st11/st11301.en08.pdf>

EU Institutional Change

*French EU Council Presidency to propose Lisbon Treaty solution in October or December

10.07.08 BBC

"The French presidency will propose a method and, I hope, a solution either in October or in December."

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7499143.stm>

*French President backs EC President Barroso for a second term. 10.07.08 BBC

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7499932.stm>

*Will the Irish be called upon to vote on the Lisbon Treaty for the second time on the same day as the European elections in June 2009 if assurances are made, in the form of declarations annexed to the treaty, on their specific concerns (neutrality, taxation, abortion, etc)? "That is what I hear from the member states. It is one hypothesis", the co-president of the Parliament Greens/EFA Group, Daniel Cohn-Bendit, stated on 1 July to journalists in Brussels.

Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) – The EU's Role in the World

*European Parliament Committee on Development to discuss key issues

14-15 July-food prices; EPAs; DCI; peace building; French EU Presidency priorities; EDF implementation; children in external relations

European Parliament Committee on Development

DRAFT AGENDA

14 July 2008, 15.00 – 18.30

Exchange of views with Mr Louis Michel, Member of the Commission for Development and Humanitarian Aid, particularly on the EU's rapid response to soaring food prices

7. Development impact of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)

DEVE/6/64861

Rapporteur: Jürgen Schröder (EPP-ED) DT – PE409.494v01

15 July 2008, 10.00 – 11.00

9. Parliament's right of scrutiny concerning the Development Cooperation

Instrument (DCI)

- Exchange of views and adoption of conclusions from Working Groups A and B

10. Development perspectives on peace-building and nation building in post-conflict Situations

15 July 2008, 11.00 – 12.30

12. Exchange of views with Mr Alain Joyandet, Minister of State responsible for Cooperation and Francophony, President-in-Office (1 July – 31 December 2008)

15 July 2008, 15.00 – 17.00

JOINT HEARING with the Committee on Budgets - Room ASP 1 G 3

13. Financial implementation of EDF

- See separate agenda

- The hearing will take place in BUDG's meeting room: ASP 1 G 3

15 July 2008, 17.00 – 18.30

14. A special place for children in external action

- Rapporteur: Glenys Kinnock (PSE)

- First exchange of views

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733161/733161en.pdf

*EU Presidency diplomatic representation in third countries. second half of 2008

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st10/st10487-re02.en08.pdf>

*European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy
Global Europe: What next for EU Foreign Policy?

European Policy Centre

Brussels, 11 July 2008

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/08/387&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

*What prospects for normative foreign policy in a multipolar world? CEPS

These papers confront one of the main ‘known unknowns’ for 21st century foreign policy, namely how the old and new world powers will work out together what normative principles should prevail. We may see a convergence on common norms, or a competitive and possibly conflictual process driven by a realpolitik that relegates the tenets of international law to the margins. The papers in this report offer perspectives on the EU, China, India, Russia and the US, each written by noted scholars from these five major powers. They delve into the historical foundations of the normative values as espoused by China and India (both over a couple of millennia) and the US (spanning a couple of centuries). All papers lead us up to the present and peer into the future.

http://shop.ceps.eu/BookDetail.php?item_id=1682

*European Security Review. July. ISIS Europe

-Battle Groups: out of necessity, still a virtue?

-The ‘Responsibility to Protect’

-Five years of ESDP in Action

-ESDP and EU mission update

http://www.isis-europe.org/pdf/2008_esr_56_esr39.pdf

*[European Military Capabilities: Building Armed Forces for Modern Operations](#)

International Institute for Strategic Studies 09.07.08. The role of the armed forces of European countries has changed since the Cold War. They have increasingly taken part in international operations to address the world’s crises. But at the same time, military budgets have been cut. The need to do more with less has put governments under pressure to identify the capabilities that they require for modern missions and to carry out reforms. This IISS Strategic Dossier analyses these trends and considers new ways to assess the military capabilities that European nations will need to address future threats to their security.

<http://www.iiss.org/publications/strategic-dossiers/european-military-capabilities/>

*Development Diplomacy: An Introduction to Development Cooperation for Diplomats
This course presents basic knowledge, strategies, processes, techniques and tools aimed at facilitating development cooperation between two or more countries and/or institutions. It addresses various mechanisms of development cooperation on the national, regional and global levels. The course looks at development issues from the perspectives of both donor and recipient countries. Theory and analysis are supported with examples and illustrations from the professional experience of the course authors.

<http://www.diplomacy.edu/Courses/Development.asp>

*Donor contributions to the strengthening of the African peace and security architecture.
DIE 07.08

German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik
Bonn 2008

In the African continent the establishment of the AU in 2002 was important for the development of a new African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). In response to the African reform dynamics and the emerging international security agenda, external actors have begun to adjust their instruments and rethink their choices for action. New security concepts and recent approaches in development and other policies seek explicitly to support the peace and security architecture in Africa. When it comes to external support, these developments have led to a search for changing approaches spanning foreign, security and development policy. This study sets out to analyse the new APSA in the context of changing concepts of external support for it.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/\\$FILE/Studies%2038.2008.pdf](http://www.die-gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/$FILE/Studies%2038.2008.pdf)

*A new donor approach to fragile societies: The case of Somaliland. ODI 07.07

Somaliland is unique in that, unlike southern Somalia, it has restored law and order and become one of the most democratic parts of the Muslim world
07.08

http://www.odi.org.uk/publications/opinions/103_fragile_societies_Somaliland_timothy_othieno.pdf

*Please find attached the "Written Expertise" by Prof Paul Collier entitled "Conflict Traps: the economic dimension and impact of natural resources and elections on conflict" delivered at a recent European Parliament Workshop (programme attached) on the "African Peace and Security Architecture" held in Brussels on Tuesday 24th June 2008. The workshop was the occasion to discuss a study by Dr Alex Vines of Chatham House on the same topic and which can be found at:

http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/11637_0508eu_africa.pdf

The briefing draws upon Prof Collier's important recent work such as in his book "The Bottom Billion". He clearly concludes by encouraging the European Union to continue developing its policies in this area and in particular drawing upon its strengths in the area of ESDP, governance and development:

"Many of the countries of the bottom billion are structurally insecure. This is both a human tragedy and has the potential for catastrophe-driven migration and the resulting social tensions within Europe. Addressing these risks requires a range of policies: in particular, aid, peacekeeping and rules of governance. Coordination needs to be not only between policies that are usually the preserve of rival ministries and agencies, but it needs to be across countries. The European Union is the best-placed institution to promote this dual coordination of policies and countries."

Conflict Traps. The Economic Dimension and Impact of Natural Resources and Elections on Conflicts.

European Parliament Study by Paul Collier. 07.08

http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48925&cat_id=6357

EU Budget – European Development Fund

*European Parliament Committee on Development to discuss key issues

14-15 July-food prices; EPAs; DCI; peace building; French EU Presidency priorities; EDF implementation; children in external relations

European Parliament Committee on Development

DRAFT AGENDA

14 July 2008, 15.00 – 18.30

Exchange of views with Mr Louis Michel, Member of the Commission for Development and Humanitarian Aid, particularly on the EU's rapid response to soaring food prices

7. Development impact of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)

DEVE/6/64861

Rapporteur: Jürgen Schröder (EPP-ED) DT – PE409.494v01

15 July 2008, 10.00 – 11.00

9. Parliament's right of scrutiny concerning the Development Cooperation

Instrument (DCI)

- Exchange of views and adoption of conclusions from Working Groups A and B

10. Development perspectives on peace-building and nation building in post-conflict Situations

15 July 2008, 11.00 – 12.30

12. Exchange of views with Mr Alain Joyandet, Minister of State responsible for Cooperation and Francophony, President-in-Office (1 July – 31 December 2008)

15 July 2008, 15.00 – 17.00

JOINT HEARING with the Committee on Budgets - Room ASP 1 G 3

13. Financial implementation of EDF

- See separate agenda

- The hearing will take place in BUDG's meeting room: ASP 1 G 3

15 July 2008, 17.00 – 18.30

14. A special place for children in external action

- Rapporteur: Glenys Kinnock (PSE)

- First exchange of views

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733161/733161en.pdf

*Operational programme 2007-2013: Indian Ocean
07.07.08

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/08/486&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

*Council Decision on EDF contributions. Second Tranche 2008. 08.07.08 arrêtant les contributions financières à verser par les États membres contribuant au Fonds européen de développement (2ème tranche 2008)

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/fr/08/st11/st11132.fr08.pdf>

EU-Africa Relations

*New Europeafrica.org website

After a long process, we have finally launched the new Europafrica.org website! We do not only present a complete new layout and design, but also specific News and Resources on the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and its Action Plan.

These are the new features in detail:

The Joint Africa-EU Strategy: Find out everything about the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, its public consultation in 2007 and its implementation process.

EU-Africa dialogue: Learn about the history of the relationship, the frequency and level of meetings, the actors that play a role in the dialogue, the ENP as a part of the Africa-EU Strategy and the joint Summits between Africa and EU.

Civil Society: Get to know more about the involvement of the civil society organisations during the public consultation for the Joint Strategy and their contribution to implementation process since January 2008.

EARN: Welcome our new initiative - EARN! It is a network composed of African and European Policy Research Institutes aiming to contribute to the Africa-EU Policy Dialogue.

Key Documents: Keep yourself updated with documents on and related to the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and EU-Africa more generally.

Europafrica.org Bulletin: Subscribe to our Bulletin which provides you with an update on the implementation and monitoring process of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy.

<http://europafrica.org/2008/07/09/new-website-3/>

*European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs

DRAFT AGENDA

14 July 2008, 17.30 – 18.30

6. Exchange of views with Mr Koen Vervaeke, EU Special Representative and Head of the European Commission Delegation to the African Union

15 July 2008, 15.00 – 16.30

11. Exchange of views with Mr Bernard Kouchner, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the French Republic and acting President-in-office of Council, and

Mr Jean-Pierre Jouyet, Minister of State to the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, on Foreign Policy priorities of the French Presidency
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733404/733404en.pdf

*Friends of Europe's autumn agenda- international summit on Africa and Development Policy Forum
Friends of Europe's autumn agenda will reflect the priorities of the [French EU Presidency](#) as well as key events such as the [UNFCCC](#) meeting in Poznan in December. Our international summit on Africa will focus on how to boost growth and health, while the Development Policy Forum will continue with a roundtable during the EU Development Days.
<http://www.friendsofeurope.org/Home/tabid/529/Default.aspx>

African Union / NEPAD

*[AU postpones continental gov't debate to next summit in 2009](#). 01.07.08
The next summit in January 2009 in Addis Ababa, would last three days - exceptional case - and during which the first day would be exclusively reserved for the debate on the Government of the Union.
01.07.08
<http://europafrica.org/2008/07/03/au-postpones-continental-gov%e2%80%99t-debate-to-next-summit-in-2009/>

*[The 11th AU Summit: summary of the conclusions](#) 04.07.08
<http://europafrica.org/2008/07/07/the-11th-au-summit-summary-of-the-conclusions/>

EU External Aid

*La politique de développement de l'Union européenne – Un regard personnel sur 50 ans de coopération internationale
ECDPM is delighted to be able to mark 50 years of European cooperation by publishing the account of an observer and a protagonist of the many events described in this paper. This paper, essentially historic in nature, examines how development cooperation came about in the Community and then the Union in order to shed light on the past and ensure that the origins of this staunchly international side of our Union are not lost from sight. This paper looks at the main ways in which the EU's development policy evolved during three periods: from Rome to Lomé, from Lomé to Maastricht and from Maastricht to Lisbon.
The paper is now available for download in French on the website:
<http://www.ecdpm.org/pmr15f>. The English version will be available as of September 2008.
http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Fr_Content/Content.nsf/0/4169BB62BB6EDF03C1257439003B9E71?OpenDocument#

*European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs

DRAFT AGENDA

14 July 2008, 17.30 – 18.30

6. Exchange of views with Mr Koen Vervaeke, EU Special Representative and Head of the European Commission Delegation to the African Union

15 July 2008, 15.00 – 16.30

11. Exchange of views with Mr Bernard Kouchner, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the French Republic and acting President-in-office of Council, and Mr Jean-Pierre Jouyet, Minister of State to the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, on Foreign Policy priorities of the French Presidency

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733404/733404en.pdf

*European Parliament Committee on Development to discuss key issues

14-15 July-food prices; EPAs; DCI; peace building; French EU Presidency priorities; EDF implementation; children in external relations

European Parliament Committee on Development

DRAFT AGENDA

14 July 2008, 15.00 – 18.30

Exchange of views with Mr Louis Michel, Member of the Commission for Development and Humanitarian Aid, particularly on the EU's rapid response to soaring food prices

7. Development impact of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)

DEVE/6/64861

Rapporteur: Jürgen Schröder (EPP-ED) DT – PE409.494v01

15 July 2008, 10.00 – 11.00

9. Parliament's right of scrutiny concerning the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)

- Exchange of views and adoption of conclusions from Working Groups A and B

10. Development perspectives on peace-building and nation building in post-conflict Situations

15 July 2008, 11.00 – 12.30

12. Exchange of views with Mr Alain Joyandet, Minister of State responsible for Cooperation and Francophony, President-in-Office (1 July – 31 December 2008)

15 July 2008, 15.00 – 17.00

JOINT HEARING with the Committee on Budgets - Room ASP 1 G 3

13. Financial implementation of EDF

- See separate agenda

- The hearing will take place in BUDG's meeting room: ASP 1 G 3

15 July 2008, 17.00 – 18.30

14. A special place for children in external action

- Rapporteur: Glenys Kinnock (PSE)

- First exchange of views

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733161/733161en.pdf

*12-13.08.08 Global Partnership for Development. Where do we stand and where to go? New Delhi, India. CUTS International, in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, the India Office of the World Bank and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry

CUTS International, in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, the India Office of the World Bank and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, will be organising the subject-mentioned event on 12-13 August 2008 in New Delhi, India. This high-level meeting is to take stock of the progress on the Millennium Development Goal 8.

This event will have participation of senior representatives from inter-governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, research institutions, business associations, media organisations, donor agencies, etc. Please read the Backgrounder at www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Backgrounder_GlobalPartnershipforDevelopment-Aug12-13-2008.pdf. At the end of this Backgrounder, you will find the Agenda.

The discussions will be enriched by presentations from experts drawn from different parts of the world. More than 200 participants will attend. Besides a plenary on Mainstreaming Development into the WTO, there will be thematic sessions on the following issues:

LDCs and SVEs in the International Trading System: What future for them?

Operationalising Aid for Trade: Who is (should) doing (do) what?

Trilateral Development Cooperation: How to make it more effective?

Services Liberalisation and Domestic Regulation: Why it is so important?

The Future of the Global Trading System

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Backgrounder_GlobalPartnershipforDevelopment-Aug12-13-2008.pdf.

*27-28.08.08. Understanding Development Better conference. Ede, The Netherlands
Development will be approached and analysed from different theoretical angles, during presentations and in-depth discussions. Also constraints in development will be part of the discussion, highlighted by different professionals and scientists and further discussed in workshops. From our analysis on constraints in development we continue to possible contributions by aid. This will only form a small part of the seminar, because in this seminar our focus is on development, a next seminar will be dedicated to aid.

<http://e-mdf.nl/seminars/>

*Friends of Europe's autumn agenda- international summit on Africa and Development Policy Forum

Friends of Europe's autumn agenda will reflect the priorities of the [French EU Presidency](#) as well as key events such as the [UNFCCC](#) meeting in Poznan in December.

Our international summit on Africa will focus on how to boost growth and health, while the Development Policy Forum will continue with a roundtable during the EU Development Days.

<http://www.friendsofeurope.org/Home/tabid/529/Default.aspx>

*France (2008) DAC Peer Review of France - Main Findings and Recommendations

France is one of the international community's key players in development co-operation, where it has some specific assets, in particular its close ties with many partner countries and its ability to combine multiple tools in support of their development. The DAC invites France to continue to play its leading role and, to this end, to pursue its efforts, undertaken since 2004, to enhance the impact of its aid and the efficiency of its system. In particular, France could reinforce its strategic approach to development co-operation and ensure that its resources and instruments are guided by a clear policy with a primary focus on combating poverty. Greater geographic concentration on the least developed countries and fragile states would allow France to have an impact commensurate with its weight in the international donor community. France should also ensure that its ODA volume will rise in accordance with the pledges it has given. Finally, France should rationalise its institutional arrangements under a unified aid management strategy and a tighter and more efficient system that assigns a clear mandate to each player. This reform should take account of the need to implement the Paris Declaration. France could also take advantage of its heavy multilateral financial involvement through a more strategic approach and the strengthening of synergies with its bilateral programme. In addition, France could capitalise on its long experience in capacity building to formalise its approach, to develop operational tools, and to contribute to international thinking about this key issue, as it has done in the area of supporting fragile states.

http://www.oecd.org/document/41/0,3343,en_2649_34603_40735977_1_1_1_1,00.html

*Doing development in a downturn. ODI. 07.08

Two approaches are worth pursuing: showing that aid works, and linking the development story to the concerns of voters

http://www.odi.org.uk/publications/opinions/104_development_in_a_downturn_simon_maxwell.pdf

*Civil society International Steering Committee analysis of draft Accra agenda for action 10.07.08

While the second draft of the AAA (27th June) is more substantial than the first draft circulated in April, it is inadequate if the High Level Forum (HLF) in Accra this September is to deliver the changes in aid policy which are needed to meet the MDGs.

The AAA needs to recognise the limited progress made to date in implementing the principles of the Paris Declaration in practice, and make a strong statement that donors and governments need to make significant changes in their behaviour if real results are to be delivered on the ground.

The new draft contains very few concrete and time-bound commitments which could be monitored in the run up to 2010. Without these, the AAA will be just another statement of good intentions, and will not merit the title "agenda for action". If donors and developing country governments are serious about the statements included in the draft AAA they must agree deadlines for progress to be made and set unambiguous targets. They must also make provision for monitoring their commitments which avoids the limitations and failures which have been apparent in the monitoring of the Paris Declaration.

http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/News/CSO_response_AAA_seconddraft.pdf

*EC Humanitarian Aid Annual Report 2007. 09.07.08

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid - (ECHO)

Annual Report 2007

09.07.08

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2008:0449:FIN:EN:PDF>

*G8 statement on Development and Africa says committed to fulfil ODA commitments

"We are firmly committed to working to fulfil our commitments on ODA made in Gleneagles, and reaffirmed at Heiligendamm, including increasing, compared to 2004, with other donors, ODA to Africa by \$25 billion a year by 2010," the G8 said in a statement on Development and Africa, referring to overseas development aid.

The G8 chiefs also said they acknowledged aid from the group and other donors should be reassessed and might need to be increased for the period after 2010, beyond their current commitments.

08.07.08

http://www.mofa.go.jp/u_news/2/20080708_173847.html

*EC President press conference at the G8 Summit

08.07.08

I am very happy with the important achievements agreed at this summit. On key issues for the global community, the Tokyo G8 Summit is showing leadership and determination by the world's major economies to drive forward ambitious global solutions.

We have moved towards real action on climate change here in Tokyo. The EU's benchmark for success at this Summit has been achieved. We remain on track to reach a global climate deal in Copenhagen in 2009. We have agreed a long-term goal of at least 50% reduction of emissions by 2050. We have also agreed that we should set up mid-term targets, as the EU is already establishing for 2020. We remain on track to reach a global climate deal in Copenhagen in 2009.

Climate change also affects directly the work on MDGs. It has in many ways made the MDGs harder to deliver - by diverting resources to adaptation, for instance. But we have to respond by making climate change a priority in our work with Africa, as the European Union is doing in the EU-Africa Partnership, and in the Global Climate Change Alliance. The reality is that we can and must deliver on the MDGs. Since 1999, there are 29 million more African children in school. But we have to work to achieve this. If you want just one concrete example of our discussions this week, it can be summarized as working out how we get the rest of Africa's children into school by 2015, and what this means in terms of action by 2010.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/08/382&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

*EC President statement at the G8 outreach session with leaders from Africa 07.07.08

The G8 is determined to use this Summit to build momentum for MDGs - for the Accra conference, for the NEPAD and MDG events at the UN in September, and for the Doha meeting in November. Thanks in large part to the unstinting efforts of Ban Ki-Moon, 2008 is clearly Year of the MDGs, and we are fully supportive. But it is also clear that the MDGs are a credibility test for the G8 and indeed for the wider international community. In order to pass that test, the G8 leaders must of course reaffirm existing commitments, from Gleneagles, from Heiligendamm. But I think we are ready to do more than that. We must show a sometimes sceptical public that we will find a way to deliver those commitments, including by interim points, such as 2010. And we also have to respond to new challenges, such as food prices.

But it would be wrong for me not to acknowledge that, like all other members of the international community, we are currently struggling with aid volumes, which I have to acknowledge is the wrong signal at the wrong time. I am strongly pushing all EU Member States to establish indicative timetables to illustrate how they will meet their agreed targets. We can do better, and we must do better.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/08/377&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

*EC President calls for leadership to tackle global challenges at G8 Summit. 07.07.08
Efforts to reach MDGs must be stepped up. Proposal for a new 1 billion euro facility to support agriculture in developing countries

President of the European Commission

Opening remarks of President Barroso at the G8 Summit Press Conference

G8 summit in Tokyo,

Hokkaido, Japan, 7 July 2008

This summit needs to show that the world's leading economic powers can tackle global challenges that concern everybody, everywhere: climate change, development, the world economy and rising food and energy prices. We need to provide a strong impulse for lasting solutions to these global problems. The G8 needs to give concrete answers. In testing times for the global economy, which hit hardest those who are already the most deprived, our determination to act must be clear.

The EU is strongly committed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

In 2007, 60% of worldwide Official Development Aid came from Europe and European aid has increased by 30% since 2002.

European Heads of State and Government just adopted an ambitious EU Agenda for Action on the Millennium Development Goals at the European Council in June.

But we must step up our efforts, both in Europe and at the G8. We have to show that we are ready to deliver on our commitments. There is no going back.

I am announcing today our intention to propose a new 1 billion euro facility to support agriculture in developing countries, aiming at generating a strong and rapid agricultural supply response. This would, in practical terms, mean that EU funds would finance providing, for instance, fertilizers and seeds to help poor farmers in developing countries.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/08/376&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

*Report on the EU contribution to promoting decent work throughout the world. 02.07.08

The report aims to track the progress of the EU's contribution to promote decent work throughout the world and was requested as part of the Commission's 2006 Communication on this issue. Decent work – meaning more and better jobs with social protection, social dialogue, and equal opportunities – is crucial for developing countries, emerging economies and industrialised countries beyond the EU's borders to harness the benefits of globalisation and to manage change.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/08/463&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

*European NGOs call for urgent reaffirmation of G8 commitments on aid

01.07.08

<http://www.concordeurope.org/Public/Page.php?ID=4>

*Italian Aid at a Glance. ActionAid Blog

<http://actionaiditaly.blogspot.com/>

*First biennial Development Cooperation Forum meeting.

Held from 30 June - 1 July 2008. The goal of the Forum was to position the United Nations Economic and Social Council as a principal forum for global dialogue and policy review on the effectiveness and coherence of international development cooperation.

Development Cooperation Forum

Launched last year in Geneva, and created in 2005 at the World Summit in New York, the DCF is expected to be the principal venue for global dialogue and policy review on the effectiveness of aid and coherence of international development cooperation.

The DCF is expected help improve the impact, coherence and effectiveness of international development cooperation.

At least three major conferences are scheduled to take place before the end of this year: the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra, Ghana Sep. 2-4; the UN's high-level meeting on the Millennium Development Goals in New York Sep. 25; and the Review Conference on Financing for Development in Doha, Qatar Nov. 29-Dec. 2. Sundaram said the Forum's continued success as a venue for dialogue, policy review and mutual accountability in development cooperation would also depend on its unifying theme as the focus of its work for each biennial session. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled to take place in 2010

The biennial high-level Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) is one of the principal new functions of a strengthened Economic and Social Council. Mandated to enhance the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs, and promote dialogue to find effective ways to support it, the DCF will be held every other year within the framework of the High-level Segment of the Council. The Forum was launched in Geneva in July 2007 and the first biennial Forum will take place in New York in 2008.

The DCF is expected to exert a positive influence on the international development cooperation system by bringing together all the relevant actors to engage in a dialogue on key policy issues affecting the quality and impact of development cooperation. The Forum will discuss issues relating to effectiveness and coherence – and will provide

policy guidance and recommendations on how to improve international development cooperation.

Participants will include representatives from developing and developed countries, including bilateral development agencies, UN system organizations, World Bank, IMF, OECD, regional development banks as well as civil society and the private sector.

<http://www.un.org/ecosoc/newfunct/2008dcf.shtml>

*The implementation of the Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness by the United Nations: progress to date and need for further reforms

Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik / German Development Institute

Bonn 2008

This study takes stock of the progress made by the UN development cooperation system in implementing the Paris Declaration and considers the strengths of UN development cooperation with a view to a more effective division of labour in international development cooperation for which the Paris Declaration calls. Furthermore, it analyses the report of the High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence in the light of the Paris Declaration. It thus contributes to the debate being conducted in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and within the UN on progress to date in the implementation of the Paris Declaration and on the need for further reforms

<http://www.die->

[gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/\\$FILE/Study%2035%20Vatterodt%20Impl.Paris.Decl.pdf](http://www.die-homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/$FILE/Study%2035%20Vatterodt%20Impl.Paris.Decl.pdf)

*Report of Eurodad meeting on vertical funds. 26.06.08

On 26th June 2008, Eurodad has hosted a meeting to discuss the effectiveness and relevance of global vertical funds. These vertical programs have been considered by the OECD and the World Bank as “international initiatives outside the UN system which deliver significant funding at the country level in support of focused thematic objectives”. The purpose of the meeting was to analyse the current status and direction of vertical programs, whether they are truly beneficial to the global causes they seek support, or are they simply the path of least resistance which avoid some of the more difficult complexities of sustainable development.

The meeting has been divided into four parts: health, education, agriculture and an NGO discussion on how to develop consensus on the topic of vertical programs.

One of the main conclusions related to the health global funds, is the diversion of the general budget. However, the agricultural and health experts considered that these funds are highly effective. In this sense, Jeffrey Sachs and others claimed for the creation of a Global Agricultural Fund hosted by the WB. In fact the main proposal of participants were to rationalize funds and avoid the diversion.

<http://weca-ecaid.eu/2008/07/10/eurodad-hosts-an-experts-meeting-on-vertical-funds-26th-june-2008/>

*EADI Annual Conference Reports Blog

24-28.06.08

<http://www.gc2008.net/blog/>

*Tackling the challenge of rising food prices. Directions for EU action. EC Communication

20.05.08

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

Tackling the challenge of rising food prices

Directions for EU action

20.05.08

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2008:0321:FIN:EN:PDF>

Good Governance

*Consolidated version - Charter Local Governance support the version of the Charter sent to the European Commission to be annexed to the Communication on the theme "Local authorities, actors for development." Please note that the multi-actor consultation remains open until Friday August 29th on the Charter website www.localgovernance-coop-charter.eu

Or by mail :

lionel.vignacq@diplomatie.gouv.fr; ivan.crouzel@diplomatie.gouv.fr; emilie.maehara@diplomatie.gouv.fr

<http://www.localgovernance-coop-charter.eu/>

*[Legal and judicial reform performance monitoring: the PNG approach](#)

[The European Journal of Development Research](#), Volume 20 Issue 1 2008

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a790894481~db=all~order=page>

*African Peer Review Mechanism: Lessons from the Pioneer Countries. SAIIA

This book is divided into five sections. Part I gives a broad overview of this unique and difficult undertaking and includes a concise summary of the APRM rules, with chapters on the stages and institutions of peer review. Part II looks at the governance of the process at national level, and the various research, public consultation and validation options used in the pioneer countries. Part III presents an analysis of the politics of peer review, how civil society can become involved and influence the process, and suggestions for the way forward. Part IV has detailed case studies of the Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, Mauritius and South African processes. Part V consists of several useful appendices.

Throughout, we have sought to illustrate the human and political dynamics that animate the process. Understanding these dynamics is vital to any successful consensus-building exercise. Where possible, we have sought to make constructive recommendations for changes to the overall process and offer strategies that will enable future participants in peer review to get the most out of the opportunity it affords.

http://www.saiia.org.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=802:the-african-peer-review-mechanism-lessons-from-the-pioneers&catid=3:books&Itemid=137

*EurAc –the European NGO lobbying network for Central Africa- addresses its memorandum on the theme of decentralisation to the French presidency of the European Union: “Building democracy from the grass roots: Towards new leadership and good governance at local level.” The elections in Congo, Rwanda and Burundi made an end to the transition period, but in all three countries the democratisation process is far from accomplished.

Decentralisation should consolidate democracy from below by creating a framework for participative governance. It will help to reconstruct the state and restore its credibility. It will also be a school for democracy where citizens learn how democracy works. It will facilitate the renewal of the political landscape and the emergence of new leadership and at the same time it will encourage a more harmonious economic development based on local initiatives rooted in the community.

Please find in attachment three documents in French and English: (a) the memorandum on decentralisation for the French presidency; (b) the memorandum for the Slovenian presidency on security in Eastern Congo (we are putting our recommendations on the table once more because they are still very relevant), and (c) our orientation document that summarizes our analysis and vision on Central Africa.

Building democracy from the grass roots: Towards new leadership and good governance at local level EurAc Memorandum for the French Presidency of the EU.

<http://www.congoforum.be/en/nieuwsdetail.asp?subitem=2&newsid=145429&Actualiteit=selected>

and

Memorandum for the Slovenian Presidency of the UE 1 January to 30 June 2008 Security in eastern Congo must be the priority. EURAC

<http://storage.paxchristi.net/2008-0187.pdf>

*Supporting African governance. The donor’s dilemma.

European Policy Centre Meeting. Report 10.07.08. With ECDPM and SAIIA attending The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is a unique initiative to assess governance in Africa, in which Heads of State agree to be peer reviewed by “equals”, speakers told an EPC Policy Dialogue organised in cooperation with the ECDPM and the SAIIA. The European Commission supports this process, and will use the experience gained from it to improve its own governance programmes in developing countries, moving away from ‘donor-driven’ aid to supporting activities suggested by the APRMs.

Geert Laporte, Head of Institutional Relations, European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), said governance was a “hot topic” which donors were anxious to promote in international treaties and is much discussed in the developing world, particularly in Africa.

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is a unique “home-grown” initiative - a voluntary peer review by equal partners. ECDPM is exploring how donors can support it without undermining African ownership, and whether APRM can converge with other donor mechanisms.

<http://www.epc.eu/en/er.asp?TYP=ER&LV=293&see=y&t=2&PG=ER/EN/detail&l=&AI=836>

*Addressing the African Peer Review Mechanism's Programmes of Action. SAIIA
06.08

Faten Aggad

Number 5, June 2008

As the set of plans to address the governance gaps identified in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) process and highlighted in the Panel's recommendations, the APRM's Programmes of Action (PoAs) deserve careful consideration. Analysis reveals that most peer recommendations were ignored when the first six African countries came to write their PoA. In the case of South Africa, of 182 recommendations from a panel of eminent persons only 60 %

were included. In the case of Rwanda, about 90% were ignored. Furthermore, too often, participants confused objectives – an end - with actions, a means to an end. Complex goals requiring a range of solutions were sometimes dealt with as though a single action could resolve things. Priorities, clearer time frames and measurability needed to be introduced.

The mere fact that this analysis reveals some gaps does not mean the exercise was wasted, since it served to bring issues into the public arena. Official processes are underway to correct these procedural and content-related concerns. Therefore, as a contribution to ideas and perspectives to ongoing efforts to refine the PoA process, this paper provides practical recommendations. These include: the need for greater prioritisation, using measurable indicators and improved integration of existing national plans into the PoA.

http://www.saiia.org.za/images/stories/pubs/sops/saia_sop_05_aggad_20080702_en.pdf

[Understanding APRM Research: Planning, Process and Politics - A Practical Handbook for Peer Review Research](#)

By George Katito

Number 4, June 2008

This handbook offers advice to research organisations that become involved in their local APR process, particularly those appointed as 'technical research institutes' (TRIs), which are hired to pull together the Country Self-Assessment Reports (CSARs). Katito draws on extensive interviews with researchers who participated in national APR exercises, and makes recommendations on how to conduct research and consultations effectively and efficiently to ensure that the CSARs are fair, rigorous and candid. It also offers advice about navigating the layers of politics that surround this process.

http://www.saiia.org.za/images/stories/pubs/sops/saia_sop_04_katito_20080702_en.pdf

*Decentralisation in Africa. EADI

This volume tackles head-on two crucial issues concerning the relationship between decentralisation and development. In an uncompromising assessment of controversial claims, it provides comprehensive evidence-based analysis and critique of this key policy prescription for Africa.

"This is a major contribution to the study of decentralisation in Africa as it does not stop at describing intentions, but deals with implementation successes and shortcomings. The balance sheet of intended and unintended effects of a major reform on both poverty and conflict is convincingly established on the basis of a limited number of case studies, comparative analysis and theoretical considerations. Essential reading for both academics and decision-makers in this field. "

<http://www.eadi.org/index.php?id=292>

Coordination/Complementarity/Harmonisation/Coherence

*[Donor harmonisation and government ownership: multi-donor budget support in Ghana](#)
[The European Journal of Development Research](#), Volume 20 Issue 1 2008

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a790895113~db=all~order=page>

*EU Coherence Programme meeting on EU Blue Card proposal. Report
On 23 June the Evert Vermeer Foundation (EVF), in the context of the EU Coherence Programme, organized an expert meeting: EU's Blue Card proposal – assessing implications for development. To give you a first impression on the meeting in the European Parliament you can read a short summary below. A more detailed description will be available very soon.

<http://www.eucoherence.org/renderer.do/clearState/false/menuId/313375/returnPage/227304/itemId/508835/instanceId/313389/pageId/313375/>

Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)

*Monitoring Economic Partnership Agreements. Inputs to the negotiations and beyond
DIE-ECDPM Study. 2008

[http://www.die-gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/\\$FILE/Studies%2037.2008.pdf](http://www.die-gdi.de/die_homepage.nsf/6f3fa777ba64bd9ec12569cb00547f1b/8d2a65bfb8ead93cc12573ae002eef45/$FILE/Studies%2037.2008.pdf)

*In the framework of the trade capacity building programme for ESAMI/TRAPCA, which is funded by Trade.com, a European study tour is currently taking place. Eight of the senior staff of ESAMI have been in Geneva for a week, where they received 2 day training on agricultural trade from UNCTAD, met with various departments at WTO, ICTSD and Advisory Centre for WTO Law. They then spent 3 days at the University of Pavia where they were trained on quantitative methods on trade policy and are now in Brussels for a set of visits at the EC (DG Dev and Trade), will meet with various embassies, the Belgian Ministry of foreign affairs, the European Parliament, COLEACP, the ACP secretariat and the AU mission. They will end their tour in Amsterdam where they will go to the Common Fund for Commodities.

*EU-Central Africa Technical and Senior official negotiations
7-18 July, Brazzaville

*European Parliament Committee on Development to discuss key issues
14-15 July-food prices; EPAs; DCI; peace building; French EU Presidency priorities;
EDF implementation; children in external relations
European Parliament Committee on Development

DRAFT AGENDA

14 July 2008, 15.00 – 18.30

Exchange of views with Mr Louis Michel, Member of the Commission for
Development and Humanitarian Aid, particularly on the EU's rapid response to soaring
food prices

7. Development impact of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)

DEVE/6/64861

Rapporteur: Jürgen Schröder (EPP-ED) DT – PE409.494v01

15 July 2008, 10.00 – 11.00

9. Parliament's right of scrutiny concerning the Development Cooperation
Instrument (DCI)

- Exchange of views and adoption of conclusions from Working Groups A and B

10. Development perspectives on peace-building and nation building in post-conflict
Situations

15 July 2008, 11.00 – 12.30

12. Exchange of views with Mr Alain Joyandet, Minister of State responsible for
Cooperation and Francophony, President-in-Office (1 July – 31 December 2008)

15 July 2008, 15.00 – 17.00

JOINT HEARING with the Committee on Budgets - Room ASP 1 G 3

13. Financial implementation of EDF

- See separate agenda

- The hearing will take place in BUDG's meeting room: ASP 1 G 3

15 July 2008, 17.00 – 18.30

14. A special place for children in external action

- Rapporteur: Glenys Kinnock (PSE)

- First exchange of views

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733161/733161en.pdf

*15.07.08 EU Presidency trade priorities presentation to EP

European Parliament Committee on International Trade

15 July 2008, 10.15 – 11.45

Presentation by State Secretary Mrs Idrac, Minister in charge of the external trade,
representing the president-in-office of the Council, on the priorities of the French
Presidency in the area of international trade policy

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733817/733817en.pdf

*On sustainable development, ESA is preparing a concept paper on its view of how the
issue of sustainable development should be addressed in the EPA since it has serious
reservation on the EC approach.

*17.07.08 High level Eastern and Southern Africa-EC meeting.

[HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES WITH EU TO BE HELD IN DAR ES SALAAM, 17 JULY 2008](#)

<http://africanpress.wordpress.com/2008/07/12/high-level-meeting-of-eastern-and-southern-africa-regional-economic-communities-with-eu-to-be-held-in-dar-es-salaam-17-july-2008/>

*International Trade Centre - Fostering Trade through Private-Public Dialogue Business Implications of EPA Negotiations - ones on ECOWAS, SADC already. Upcoming on Mozambique (22 July), EAC (4-5 August), ESA (9-10 September)

The meetings will target participation from national teams representing the private sector and trade negotiators

<http://www.intracen.org/>

*August Summit to launch SADC Free Trade Area

SADC's strategic plan envisages deeper economic integration and cooperation through the creation of a Customs Union in 2010, a Common Market by 2015, a Monetary Union by 2016, and a Single Currency by 2018.

The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) is set to launch a SADC Free Trade Area in August this year which will usher in a new era of economic integration with an enlarged market of more than 200 million people. The Free Trade Area will be officially launched during the SADC Summit which will be hosted by South Africa as it takes over the rotating SADC chair.

The past eight years have thus seen the members involved in an implementation process of the Protocol with a 2008 target to ensure 85 percent of all product lines are trading at zero tariffs. The process has included, among other issues, agreeing on rules of origin and the removal of barriers to trade. The rules of origin are now in place and the SADC Certificates of Origin are increasingly receiving recognition in member states.

At the beginning of this year, some member countries were reportedly lagging behind with regard to the removal of trade barriers (both tariffs and non-tariff barriers) although the SADC Secretariat remains confident that by August, all parties to the Trade Protocol will have complied.

Not all of the 14 SADC members are parties of the Free Trade Area - Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are currently not applying the Trade Protocol, asking for more time.

Opportunities are not, however, limited to the Free Trade Area; SADC's strategic plan envisages deeper economic integration and cooperation through the creation of a Customs Union in 2010, a Common Market by 2015, a Monetary Union by 2016, and a Single Currency by 2018.

Progress towards deeper economic integration is nonetheless hampered by lingering fears among many countries - such as the need to protect infant industries and fears that goods from large exporting countries such as South Africa may swamp markets of smaller economies which could lead to the collapse of their industries.

Some members are also facing constraints and challenges in their quest to liberalise trade

- in circumstances where they relied heavily on tariff revenue. In such cases, a direct compensation mechanism may be necessary to caution national budgets and prevent SADC countries from plunging into a debt trap.

Other constraints on intra-regional trade include high transaction costs owing to inadequate transport, information, communications, and energy infrastructure, for example, as well as restrictive customs and immigration procedures. For this reason there is little surprise that SADC has accorded high priority to the implementation of infrastructure projects to support deeper economic integration - as was the case at the 2007 SADC Summit held in Lusaka where leaders discussed such issues.

26.06.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi%2Dbin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=47920&cat_id=1026

*Fostering Trade through Private-Public Dialogue Business Implications of EPA Negotiations

For East Africa

CONCEPT PAPER

The International Trade Centre (ITC), in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, will organize a Public Private Dialogue for the East African countries on 4-5 August, focusing on the

business implications of negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union and issues relating to regional integration. This regional dialogue will encompass participation from the East African Community (EAC), i.e. Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

The meetings will target participation from national teams representing the private sector and trade negotiators

EPAs-EAC-Private-Public Dialogues-ITC-Concept Paper for mtg 04-0508.doc

And

<http://www.intracen.org/>

*PANG, PCC, SPOCTU and Oxfam are taking the opportunity of the 2008 Civil Society Forum in Auckland to organise a workshop on the trade negotiations that the Pacific is currently involved in. As you're no doubt aware, the region is faced with a spaghetti bowl of negotiations, from PICTA (negotiations amongst the Pacific Islands Countries), to EPA (with the EU), to PACER (with Australia and NZ) and the WTO (in the World Trade Organisation). These negotiations involve critical choices that will affect almost every aspect of the social, cultural and economic lives of Pacific peoples.

The workshop will be held on Monday the 11th of August (the day before the Pacific Civil Society Forum starts), and will be structured to provide an overview of the "state of play" in the negotiations and their possible implications, and then broadened out to discuss how Pacific civil society can engage in these critical debates to ensure that their people's best interests are not marginalised or forgotten.

*Fostering Trade through Private-Public Dialogue Business Implications of WTO and EPA Negotiations For East and Southern Africa

CONCEPT PAPER

CONCEPT PAPER

The International Trade Centre (ITC), in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, will organize a Public Private Dialogue for East and Southern Africa countries on 9-10 September, focusing on the business implications of negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union and issues relating to regional integration. The meetings will target participation from national teams representing the private sector and trade negotiators

EPAs-ESA-Private-Public Dialogues-ITC-Concept Paper for mtg 09-100908.doc

And

<http://www.intracen.org/>

*Since 2004 every 27 September, the anniversary of the launch of the EPA negotiations), is Stop EPAs Day.

23 SEPTEMBER : EUROPEAN STOP EPAS ACTION IN STRASBOURG IN FRONT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

23-27 SEPTEMBER : NATIONAL STOP EPAS ACTIVITIES

[http://groups.google.com/group/que-](http://groups.google.com/group/que-alternativas/browse_thread/thread/938386d261975cd2/7fd9d00ed658c7f2?hl=en&q=ACP+EU+trade#7fd9d00ed658c7f2)

[alternativas/browse_thread/thread/938386d261975cd2/7fd9d00ed658c7f2?hl=en&q=ACP+EU+trade#7fd9d00ed658c7f2](http://groups.google.com/group/que-alternativas/browse_thread/thread/938386d261975cd2/7fd9d00ed658c7f2?hl=en&q=ACP+EU+trade#7fd9d00ed658c7f2)

*EC working on these:

-Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signature and provisional application of the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Central Africa, of the other part
COM (2008) 445/1 of 07/07/2008

-Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION concluding the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Central Africa, of the other part
COM (2008) 446/1 of 02/07/2008

-AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING A STEPPING STONE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN GHANA, ON THE ONE PART, AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES, ON THE OTHER PART
COM (2008) 440/1 of 03/07/2008

-AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING A STEPPING STONE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN GHANA, ON THE ONE PART, AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES, ON THE OTHER PART
COM (2008) 441/1 of 08/07/2008

-Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signature and provisional application of the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Côte d'Ivoire, of the other part

COM (2008) 438/1 of 08/07/2008

-Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION concluding the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Côte d'Ivoire, of the other part

COM (2008) 439/1 of 02/07/2008

-COMMISSION DECISION CAMEROON – 2002 Programme of financial and technical assistance for the banana sector Budget line 21.03.18 (ex B7-8710) - Assistance to ACP banana producers Extension of the implementation period

C (2008) 3424/1 of 04/07/2008

*Inter regional Coordinating Committee (IRCC) in collaboration with the European Commission and with the support of the Government of Tanzania, will hold a high High-Level Meeting aimed at “Accelerating Regional Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa” on 17th July 2008, Hotel Kempiski, Dar-Es-Salaam.

The Inter-Regional Coordinating Committee (IRCC) comprises the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) jointly called the ESA –Indian Ocean region; and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the European Commission (EC). The ACP Secretariat has observer status. Currently, EAC holds the Chair of the IRCC until February 2009.

To provide the ESA-IO region an opportunity to present its own vision of regional integration, and the related needs, and where the EU (both the Commission, represented by the Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Louis Michel, and representatives of EU Member states) can outline its response in terms of aid for trade commitments. Other partners that will attend the meeting include the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank, USAID, the PTA Bank, EADB, the IMF, SIDA, CIDA, JICA as well as the African Union. The Meeting comes at a critical juncture when the four Regional Organisations in collaboration with the EC are in the process of finalizing the 10th EDF Regional Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme (RSP/RIP), covering the period 2008-2013, and providing more than €600 million to the ESA region to support its integration agenda. In this regard, it is expected that the meeting will lead to the endorsement of the approach outlined in the draft 10th EDF RSP/RIP for the ESA-IO region. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for the regions to present the main challenges within the regional integration agenda, and advocate for additional support from the EU Member States and other partners under the Aid for Trade initiative. The Chairman of the IRCC and Secretary General of East African Community Secretariat Amb. Juma Mwapachu, with his counterparts from the other Regional groupings, will attend the meeting whose official opening ceremony will also be graced by the attendance of Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Hon. Mkulo, Commissioner Louis Michel, AU – Vice President Mr. Erastus Mwencha, and the EU

Presidency (France). The meeting will bring together the Ministers of Finance and Trade from the ESA-IO region and representatives from EU Member States. On 18 July two other side events will complement the high-level meeting: a Non State Actors forum on the same theme in the morning, and a working session on taking the Aid effectiveness agenda at the regional level in the afternoon.

http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48927&cat_id=6364

*EU Article 133 Committee discussing EPAs 11.07.08 and 16.07.08

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/cm02/cm02614.en08.pdf>

and <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/cm02/cm02611.en08.pdf>

*Provisional Calendar EPA meetings / events 2008

<http://www.igloo.org/bangoonline/.calendar?date=2007/10/01&mini=2007/10>

*The 20th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government will be held in Belize in the first quarter of 2009.

*Consultations on EAC Monetary Union to begin. 11.07.08

Consultations are expected to begin in August 2008 in each of the five EAC countries before an interim report containing the findings and recommendations of the study is released in December this year.

[https://www.givengain.com/cgi-](https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48661&cat_id=1026)

[bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48661&cat_id=1026](https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48661&cat_id=1026)

*The unseating of the incumbent party in Grenada is the latest in a string of similar defeats for governing parties in national elections right across the Caribbean.

Opposition parties have won elections in Jamaica, Barbados, Belize, Bahamas, St. Lucia, British Virgin Islands, and now in Grenada.

The only exceptions to this trend were Trinidad and Tobago and Bermuda where governing parties staved off challenges from the opposition. August 2006 elections in Guyana also saw the Bharrat Jagdeo government holding on to power.

10.07.08

http://www.bbc.co.uk/caribbean/news/story/2008/07/080710_winds_change.shtml

*Stop the EU taking the Caribbean for a ride. Caribbean Net News Commentary.

10.07.08

http://www.caribbeannetnews.com/article.php?news_id=9040

*Guyana EPA consultative process scheduled to begin at end of the month

10.07.08 BBC

Guyana is meanwhile about to launch a process of national consultation on the EPA issue, in keeping with an earlier announcement by President Bharrat Jagdeo, that Georgetown would not sign on to the economic partnership agreement until such an exercise is undertaken.

That consultative process is scheduled

http://www.bbc.co.uk/caribbean/news/story/2008/07/080710_newsbriefs.shtml to begin at the end of the month.

*Tanzania will not rejoin COMESA. 10.07.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48582&cat_id=1026

*EU may defer Caribbean and interim EPA signing to 2009 according to press report. Trinidad Express 09.07.08

http://www.trinidadexpress.com/index.pl/article_opinion?id=161349926

Now, signals are coming from Brussels that given their own domestic challenges, EU member states and the European Commission may be compelled to defer signing arrangements to possibly early in 2009.

This approach could involve both the interim EPAs with African states as well as the comprehensive one completed, with dissent, by the Caribbean region last December in Barbados, according to latest reports out of Brussels.

http://www.trinidadexpress.com/index.pl/article_opinion?id=161349926

*Sign EPA with or without Guyana President. Jamaica Observer Editorial 09.07.08

Following the academic delusions of two prominent Guyanese, neither of whom have any practical experience in trade negotiations, he raised the issue of delaying the signing of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) at the recent Caricom summit in Antigua & Barbuda. None of the concerns he raised were found to be technically valid or politically feasible.

http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/editorial/html/20080708T200000-0500_137656_OBS_LET_S_SIGN_EPA_WITH_OR_WITHOUT_PRESIDENT_JAGDEO_.asp

*In line with the decision of the ministers of finance and trade decision calling for the AU to develop a model/template for a full and comprehensive EPA to guide the EPA negotiations, the AU commission is working on the modalities for the implementation of this decision.

A consultant will be engaged to develop the template.

*Banana war continues - CARICOM warns of retaliation at global trade talks over challenge to EU preference

Jamaica Gleaner 09.07.08

Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries have warned that they might walk away from any consensus on global trade talks if Latin American banana producers are successful in undermining the Caribbean's export preferences for the fruit in the European market.

<http://www.jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20080709/business/business5.html>

*EC SADC negotiator says ANSA pressure group aimed at coercing the EU in a bid to give more concessions

08.07.08 "We are looking at the possibility of putting some modification to the text. I

believe that compromises are possible to both parties,” Casella said.

Ivano Casella, the European Commission’s chief negotiator in the ongoing EU- SADC trade negotiation on economic partnership agreement, said Angola, Namibia and South Africa have formed a “pressure group” aimed at coercing the EU in a bid to give more concessions.

“Angola, Namibia and South Africa (ANS), have formed a pressure group and have presented their consolidated argument, which we are still considering. There is a commitment to negotiate on the part of the EU and we are still studying the document and we will get it to them,” the Italian man said.

The three countries bolted out of the EU-SADC trade negotiations raising concerns and they either initialled in protest or totally refused to initial the agreement.

However, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Mozambique and Swaziland have initialled. Out of the five, only Namibia could not proceed to the next stage of negotiating on services and investment at a meeting which was held in Brussels last month. “We are looking at the possibility of putting some modification to the text. I believe that compromises are possible to both parties,” Casella said.

However, he took a stronger position when it came to South Africa saying that they cannot bend the rules more than what they have done already. “South Africa has to understand that we cannot give it any other offer than what we have already done. It has to understand that it is a developing country and cannot be treated like others,” he said. Under the economic partnership agreement, members of the 78 member states of Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries are expected to liberalize at least 85 percent of the total trade with the EU and by 2018, all tariffs will have to be removed to allow the free flow of goods and services between the regions.

EPAs are quota free and duty free trade agreements that are intended to lift the developing countries from poverty and link them to the international trade. Further, the intention is to simplify the trade agreement and foster regional integration and capacity building among the ACP countries. The agreements are also World Trade Organisation compliant, unlike the just expired Cotonou agreement.

“Southern African countries have different problems and different needs. I think we have to review the EPAs because there are a lot of concerns and most of them are coming from Africa,” Jo Leinen, the German member of the European parliament said. “There is a lot of tension between other member states, especially in Southern Africa. However, South Africa has to understand that it has to give to its neighbours. South Africa is a big state while others are small and the current tensions in the region are not the aim of the EU,” he said.

The ANS group is raising its concern at a time when the ACP countries future is in the balance as Brazil has approached the WTO court to seek clarification on the status of EPAs and, most importantly, about the countries which have not yet initialled. Most of the countries which have not initialled are trading under the Everything But Arms (EBA) rule which has a less incentive and a unilateral arrangement that can be terminated at any time.

If Brazil succeeds, ACP countries will lose preferential treatment which they are enjoying as all the countries wishing to export to the European market can do willy nilly at the cost of higher tariffs.

“We are gambling at the moment. The idea is that, after initialling, we should quickly

move to signing the agreement. I do not think that they (in Geneva) would refuse to give us an extension of 1-2 years but Brazil is already raising concerns and it needs clarification under most Favourable Nations. "If they (EPA negotiations) take long, we would have to move back to the tariff system but the biggest losers would be the developing countries," Giorgio Cocchi, the Director General for Development at the European Commission said.

08.07.08

http://www.sundaystandard.info/news/news_item.php?NewsID=3302&GroupID=3

Stiglitz urges Ghana to ensure EPA favours local businesses and the country's economic development as a whole.

08.07.08 "EPAs do not give sufficient opportunities for the businesses in LDCs to develop to levels where they can compete favourably with their counterparts in the EU and that is critical to the development of a country like Ghana," he said.

Nobel economics laureate Professor Joseph Stiglitz urged the Ghana government to listen to the critical issues raised by civil society organization about the EPAs and ensure that it entered into an agreement that would favour local businesses and the country's economic development as a whole.

"EPAs do not give sufficient opportunities for the businesses in LDCs to develop to levels where they can compete favourably with their counterparts in the EU and that is critical to the development of a country like Ghana," he said.

08.07.08

<http://www.afriquenligne.fr/news/africa-news/nobel-economics-laureate-preaches-caution-on-epas-200807088542.html>

and

<http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=146532>

and

<http://www.myjoyonline.com/news/200807/18061.asp>

*EU Council Decision on Annexes IV and VI to the South Africa TDCA
Adoption of a Council Decision on a Community position within the EU-South Africa Cooperation Council on the amendment of Annexes IV and VI to the Agreement on Trade, Development and Cooperation between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of South Africa, of the other part (TDCA), regarding certain agricultural products

08.07.08

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st11/st11218.en08.pdf>

*EIB says positive growth in ACP in the past year. 08.07.08

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has revealed positive growth in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States in the past year despite global concerns about financial markets.

He revealed that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the sub-Sahara Africa grew by 5.7 percent in 2006 and by slightly over 6 percent in 2007.

http://www.acp.int/en/press_releases/EIB_7-7-08_e.htm

*EAC common market will control freedom of movement 08.07.08

The regional parliament is expected to ratify the protocol governing the EAC common market in June 2009, becoming operational from January 2010.

Under the East African Community (EAC) common market, the free movement of people across the region will be controlled to avoid 'unnecessary conflicts' once the mooted regional integration becomes operational.

Public fears that regional integration would result in foreigners flooding the country in search of jobs was allayed by the Minister for East African Cooperation, Dr Diodorus Kamala.

The regional parliament is expected to ratify the protocol governing the EAC common market in June 2009, becoming operational from January 2010.

08.07.08

[https://www.givengain.com/cgi-](https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48445&cat_id=1026)

[bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48445&cat_id=1026](https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48445&cat_id=1026)

*In his address at the start of the meeting, Guyanese President Bharrat Jagdeo accused the European Union of adopting "bully boy tactics" during the EPA negotiations and warned that the deal could lead to intra-Caricom competition and even fragmentation. "The EPA will define our external trade policy with all other trading partners. Are we satisfied with this? Will we allow the Most Favoured Nation clause to stand? Each state will have a bilateral relationship with the EU. Caricom is not a party to the EPA," Jagdeo said.

Antigua and Barbuda and St. Vincent and Grenadines Prime Ministers on EPA

08.07.08 Terraviva

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer, who will be the chair of the 15-member Caricom grouping over the next six months, said that the EPA had been "fully debated" during the summit with the leaders taking "quite some time examining the pros and cons."

"We recognise that there were issues involved but I think in the final analysis we were able to arrive at a position which seeks to ensure that the process continues and that Caricom will sign on the EPA with certain thoughts in terms of ensuring that commitments will remain intact."

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves said the EPA, which is now likely to be signed in Barbados in the next two months, represents a "new world situation" in which the preferential treatment for Caribbean goods and services has disappeared.

"We are in a liberalised trading environment that if we didn't fashion some agreement ...we would have been left with having an imposition of the General System of Preferences. You may say that it is the modern globalised world and a proverbial gun to our heads, but we have to make the best of the world in which we find ourselves."

"I am not going out there and sing the praises and say it is manna from heaven; there are features of the agreement which are helpful and there other features which are problematic," he said at the end of summit news conference.

"We have to realise that in the relationship [with the EU], we were subordinate partners and it does not mean we have to roll over and play dead, but you try to find as much

space as you possibly can to advance the concerns and welfare of our people," Gonsalves said.

08.07.08

<http://www.ipsterraviva.net/Europe/article.aspx?id=6264>

*The legal base of the Cariforum EPA. From the EC

The legal basis is a separate decision for Council based on the draft proposal by the Commission. The Commission proposed articles: 57 (2), 133 (1), 133 (5) and 181 in conjunction with the second subparagraph of Article 300 (2), covering both trade and development (art. 181) aspects of the agreement. Council subsequently added 71, 80(2) and 133 (6).

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
Statement by the United Kingdom

Adoption of a Council Decision on the signature and provisional application of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the CARIFORUM States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part - Statement by the United Kingdom

08.07.08

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st11/st11139-ad01.en08.pdf>

*EU-African Economic Relations. Continuing Dominance, Traded for Aid? 07.07.08
German Institute of Global and Area Studies. Promising growth rates, increased trade, and competition among major global players for African resources have boosted the development and bargaining power of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in relation to the EU. However, Africa's least developed countries remain vulnerable to external shocks. Academic analysis is still too heavily influenced by scholastic controversies. Neither the controversy over "big-push" concepts nor the blaming of African culture as an impediment to growth or good government do justice to the real issues at stake. Even beyond the aftermath of (neo)colonialism, and notwithstanding continuing deficits in good government in many African countries, the EU bears responsibility for the fragile state of many African economies. The self-interested trade policies of the EU and other world powers contribute to poverty and unsatisfactory development in SSA. This threatens to perpetuate asymmetrical power relations in the new Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), to the detriment of regional integration and pro-poor growth. However, mounting competition between China and other global players for Africa's resources is resulting in windfall profits for Africa. The latter is leading to a revival of seesaw politics, already known from the times of the Cold War, on the part of African states. This could be profitable for Africa's power elite, but not necessarily for Africa's poor.

<http://www.giga->

[hamburg.de/dl/download.php?d=/content/publikationen/pdf/wp82_kohnert.pdf](http://www.giga-hamburg.de/dl/download.php?d=/content/publikationen/pdf/wp82_kohnert.pdf)

*Guyana President restates EPA concerns, but acknowledges may have to sign. 07.07.08

"I know Guyana may not be able to withstand the might of the European Union and it becomes a bit harder now that the other countries are going to sign... I am not going to

give up fighting and I want my people know exactly what we are entering into.” Jagdeo told the media that while Guyana remains committed to the regional integration process, as a sovereign state, the interests of the people must be considered and addressed.

Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

On this issue which is of much concern to Guyana, the President insists that Guyana signing the EPA must broadly be accepted by the country’s citizens.

He told journalists that his position has not changed. “We had extensive discussions and I still feel strongly that we are entering into an Agreement that will undermine some aspects of the regional integration movement.”

The President added that the EPA with the European Union can undermine the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME); noting that, “I am very worried that we are giving up economic sovereignty to the EU.”

The President explained that once the region’s members of the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group sign the EPA any other agreement that the ACP signs that is related to the EPA will have to be sanctioned by the European Union.

“For example, if CARICOM Heads were to decide on particular trade matters and were to make that decision the day after the EPA is signed, the Agreement, once that impacted on this agreement we could not implement it or we had to consult the EU to get the EU’s approval. So we in many ways would have taken away the sovereignty exercised by the legitimately elected governments of the region.”

The President explained that he has grave concerns over many other issues in the Agreement. “I know Guyana may not be able to withstand the might of the European Union and it becomes a bit harder now that the other countries are going to sign... I am not going to give up fighting and I want my people know exactly what we are entering into.”

Jagdeo said he will explain to Guyanese the dangers and, “I am going to say to them that we have to make a pragmatic decision that we may have to sign because our exports may not be able to withstand the tariff.”

He contended that while it is not the best agreement in the world, it might be the only one that could have been negotiated. The Agreement gives the EU an unfair advantage over CARIFORUM countries.

However, the President maintained that the Agreement should not be misconstrued as a failure on the part of the region, but rather having tried their best, noting that “the bully tactics have to be exposed”.

07.07.08

<http://www.caribbeannetnews.com/news-8984--13-13--.html>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. EU Council Decision on the signature and provisional application of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the CARIFORUM States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part

07.07.08

Main

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 2

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad02.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 4

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad04.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 5

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad05.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 6

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad06.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 7

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad07.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 8

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad08.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 9

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad09.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 10

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad10.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 11

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad11.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 12

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad12.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 13

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad13.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 14

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad14.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 15

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad15.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 16

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad16.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 17

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad17.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 18

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad18.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 19

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad19.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 20

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad20.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 21

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad21.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 22

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad22.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 23

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad23.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 24

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad24.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 25

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad25.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 26

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad26.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 27

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad27.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 28

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad28.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 29

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad29.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 30

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad30.en08.pdf>

*EU Council Decision on Caribbean EPA signature and provisional application. 07.07.08
ADD 31

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st07/st07507-ad31.en08.pdf>

*Obstacles to trade discussed at East African Investment Conference 07.07.08
Rwandan President Paul Kagame decried the obstacles to trade and business in the region in his speech at the East African Community (EAC) Summit which was held in Kigali recently. Congested and ineffective ports, dilapidated railway lines, broken highways, chaotic and snail-paced border crossings, and a multitude of weighbridges that encourage corruption were cited as hindrances to trade.

The First East African Investment Conference marked a positive step towards promoting investment and trade in the region which is crucial for job and wealth creation. However, investors and traders will only truly benefit when they are no longer seen "as milk cows by whoever crosses their path"

07.07.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48366&cat_id=1026

*The United Kingdom will be spending some \$ 750 million in Africa by 2010, through its "Aid for Trade" strategy forming part of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

This is according to the UK Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Trade and Consumer Affairs, Gareth Thomas.

"This is just one of the examples of 'Aid for Trade', and we will be spending about \$750 million in Africa by 2010," said Mr Thomas

"We want to work with you [South Africa], not only through the WTO's Doha round of talks, but through the EPA discussions.

"Of particular concern to us is the effect of EPA's on regional integration [and as such] regional integration is a priority for us.

"To help ensure this is possible, we will be encouraging the commission to be flexible for the second round of talks [between the EU and Africa]," he said.

07.07.08

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200807071665.html>

Sources indicate that the \$750million are a UK commitment taken already in 2006 and not directly related to EPAs. The commitments were made in pounds, so it's £409 a year in wider AfT by 2010. UK pledges on a narrower definition of bilateral AfT (TRTA) are £100 a year by 2010.

*Report to the EU French Presidency calls for EC EPA mandate revision. 07.07.08

No comment as yet from EC

The approach taken by the European Union (EU) in trade talks with Africa has been strongly criticised in an official report commissioned by France, the new holder of the EU's rotating presidency.

Christiane Taubira, the member of the French national assembly who authored the report at the request of her country's government, has recommended that the mandate given to the European Commission to negotiate economic partnership agreements (EPAs) with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries should be amended.

Although trade officials have been leading the talks on behalf of the 27-strong EU, she advocates that the basis for the negotiations should be rethought so that there is a greater emphasis on social and economic development.

Taubira's report was commissioned by France in April in preparation for its six-month stint chairing meetings of the EU's governments, which began on July 1. It follows concerns raised in private by French diplomats to the European Commission over recent months.

Although the Commission has been arguing that at least 80 percent of tariffs imposed by ACP countries on European goods should be scrapped, the French officials have recommended that the extent of trade liberalisation sought should be narrower in scope. Peter Power, the Commission's spokesman for trade, said that the Taubira report has not yet been transmitted to Brussels.

"It would not be appropriate for us to comment on draft reports commissioned by the French administration that have not been circulated to us officially," he told IPS. "We have a close dialogue with the (French) presidency on EPAs and will discuss any recommendations they raise with us."

07.07.08

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=43095>

*Cameroon will host the headquarters of the African Monetary Fund, which will be formed with the sole aim of promoting trade within the African continent

07.07.08

<http://www.afriquenligne.fr/news/africa-news/cameroon-to-host-african-monetary-fund-headquarters-200807078397.html>

*ECOWAS Trade Commissioner all stakeholders must be involved in EPA negotiations
07.07.08

"If we complete the work by December this year, between December and May 2009, to subject it to proper scrutiny by all stakeholders and also the national parliament, national assembly of member states, if they are all satisfied, then we would sign the EPA in June 2009"

Workshop, anchored under the auspices of the National Union of Nigerian Traders (NANTS), to deliberate on the regional consultations on EPA, brought together stakeholders from the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Industry, parliaments of ECOWAS countries, private sector and the media.

Trade Commissioner of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Mohammed Daramy, emphasised the need for private sector participation in the EPA negotiations.

"If we complete the work by December this year, between December and May 2009, to subject it to proper scrutiny by all stakeholders and also the national parliament, national assembly of member states, if they are all satisfied, then we would sign the EPA in June 2009," he said.

07.07.08

<http://www.afriquenligne.fr/news/africa-news/acp,-eu-to-sign-epa-agreement-in-2009-200807088458.html>

*David Jessop, director of the Caribbean Council, notes "a change of political mood in many small states across the world about trade liberalisation" and predicted that "delay will almost certainly be the region's chosen approach on the EPA".

Jessop warns that free trade "has potentially become an issue for the streets as the price of everyday living accelerates beyond governments' ability to control."

06.07.08

<http://www.stabroeknews.com/features/the-view-from-europe-change-political-mood-trade-iberalization-small-states/>

*St Lucia prepared to sign EPA

06.07.08 Ministry of Trade hosting sensitisation programmes

The St Lucia government says it is prepared to take part in the signing of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between CARIFORUM (Caribbean Community and Dominican Republic) countries and Europe, which takes place in the next few weeks. Against this background, the Ministry of Trade, Commerce, Consumer Affairs and Investment is continuing to host a number of sensitisation programmes to adequately

06.07.08

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2008/july/tradoc_139527.pdf

*EAC quality mark will be implemented

The adoption of a common regional quality standard in the East African Community (EAC) will go on despite the implementation hitches, said EAC Minister Amason Kingi Jeffah and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry Mr David Nalo at a press briefing in Nairobi on Wednesday.

The Ministry said that it was mandatory to effect the common standards after the regional legislative assembly passed the Standards, Measurement and Testing Act. "It is now law and must be implemented. There could only be negotiations on the mode of implementation", said Nalo.

However, in what could be a reprieve to importers and exporters, Nalo said that the EAC Council has formed a committee to coordinate the smooth implementation of the new law that was set to have taken effect on 1 July, 2008.

04.07.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48321&cat_id=1026

*Caricom failing to implement Caribbean Single Market Economy. 04.07.08

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) leaders are wrapping up their annual summit in Antigua, amid worrying signs that after 35 years, the regional integration movement has not progressed beyond a "community of sovereign states".

As Ralph Gonsalves, the St Vincent and the Grenadines prime minister and one of the older leaders among a crop of new Caribbean heads, noted recently Caricom will soon be forced to transform itself from "a ramshackle political-administrative apparatus" in which "several of its member states jealously guard a vaunted and pristine sovereignty".

Gonsalves has blamed the "politics of a limited regional engagement in Jamaica, shackled by the ghosts from the federal referendum; the politics of ethnicity in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana; a mistaken sense of uniqueness and separation among the large sections of the Barbadian populace; the peculiar distinctiveness of Haiti and Suriname; and the cultivated aloofness from the regional enterprise by the Bahamas" for the present situation.

He has argued that unlike the smaller sub-regional Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), which is now celebrating its 27th anniversary, "the realisation of a common monetary policy or a common currency as there exists in the OECS member-countries" for Caricom is indeed a distant dream.

"Similarly, it is most doubtful that we would see in Caricom an integrated judiciary, as in the OECS," he said at a public consultation in his country in support of moves by the nine-member OECS grouping to establish its own economic union.

Norman Girvan, the respected Caribbean academic and former secretary general of the Association of Caribbean States, has warned of a possible collapse of Caricom, if regional leaders fail to put in place mechanisms to enforce decisions regarding the integration process.

Girvan, who last year presented a report to the regional leaders that was meant to "provide a vision for the development of the Caribbean Community to which all stakeholders can give their support", said the 15-member grouping had become stagnant due mainly to a lack of implementing decisions.

"I've been a committed integrationist all my life, but I have to call it as I see it...To be brutally frank and realistic about it, I see a real danger of disintegration. We are at a juncture," he said.

The Jamaican-born Girvan said the regional leaders seem to lack the will to pass the Single Caricom Act, first recommended in 1992 that would give automatic effect to Caricom decisions in member states.

"The governments are still dillydallying on that. They simply do not want to take that critical step of transferring some of their sovereignty to the regional body," he said. "We're still clinging to the insular sovereignty that, in my opinion, is largely fictitious because in the modern world states of our size simply cannot expect to have any real sovereignty," Girvan added. "The forces of globalisation, the fact of our small size, the fact of our trade dependency, the fact of our military weakness, all of these things make it virtually impossible for our small island states to have any real sovereignty."

Girvan pointed to the decision by Guyana and Suriname to become part of the Union of South American Nations; Dominica, St Vincent and Antigua joining the Bolivarian Alternative for Latin America; and the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with Europe as factors that have further weakened Caricom.

04.07.08 http://www.bilaterals.org/article.php3?id_article=12614

*UEMOA takes stock of development projects

The Regional Economic Programme (REP) of the West African Economic and Monetary Union created 10,000 jobs in 2006 and the trend is expected to continue until 2010 when it would have created a total of 53,000 jobs, according to reports emanating from a joint conference of the Union and its technical and financial here.

04.07.08

<http://www.afriquenligne.fr/news/africa-news/uemoa-takes-stock-of-development-projects,-creates-53,000-jobs-in-w%10africa-200807048289.html>

*Political Leadership and Caribbean Integration. Caricom Technical Working Group on Governance Chairman

04.07.08

There is unfinished business relating to matching the institutional arrangements of Caricom to the political strategizing and operationalisation of the Single market and economy and its external negotiating requirements. There is the even more important task of relating these to, and supporting them through, a process of political legitimization of decisions made in these respects. This process of political legitimization is the essential task of the political leadership.

So there is first, clearly unfinished business relating to matching the institutional arrangements of Caricom to the political strategizing and operationalisation of the Single market and economy and its external negotiating requirements. Secondly there is the even more important task of relating these to, and supporting them through, a process of political legitimization of decisions made in these respects. This process of political legitimization is the essential task of the political leadership. Difficulties in achieving it, and hesitations in attempting it, lie at the base of the hesitations and rejections relating to the decisions on regional policy integration and governance which we have discussed here. This situation is made even more challenging at the present time, when many of the objectives, and implementation tasks arising in connection with the CSME are affected by factors emanating from the international economic environment (food security, energy, changes in trading arrangements, changes in major power priorities). These are less subject to domestic manipulation.

04.07.08.

<http://www.normangirvan.info/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/lewis-political-leadership-and-caribbean-integration.pdf>

*EU to give 1 billion euros to farmers in poor regions

04.07.08 The proposal should be formally endorsed next week by the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, and will then be sent to EU ministers and the European Parliament. If all goes smoothly, the money would start to flow in early January 2009.

<http://africa.reuters.com/top/news/usnBAN453267.html>

*[The 11th AU Summit: summary of the conclusions](http://europafrica.org/2008/07/07/the-11th-au-summit-summary-of-the-conclusions/) 04.07.08

<http://europafrica.org/2008/07/07/the-11th-au-summit-summary-of-the-conclusions/>

*UEMOA Réunion du Comité de Pilotage du Programme Economique Régional. Communiqué.

03.07.08

Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine (UEMOA) / Réunion du Comité de Pilotage du Programme Economique Régional (PER) élargie aux Etats membres et aux Partenaires Techniques et Financiers / Communiqué final

03.07.08

<http://appablog.wordpress.com/2008/07/04/union-economique-et-monetaire-ouest-africaine-uemoa-reunion-du-comite-de-pilotage-du-programme-economique-regional-per-elargie-aux-etats-membres-et-aux-partenaires-techniques-et-financiers-com/>

*President reiterates Guyana will not sign EPA until completion of full national consultation. 03.07.08

President Bharrat Jagdeo Wednesday reiterated that Guyana will not sign the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) until there has been completion of a full national consultation.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 29th Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Heads of Government Meeting in Antigua and Barbuda the President said the European Union (EU) continues to seek to impose tariffs on the country's exports.

The Head of State noted that the EU is aware that Guyana's exports into Europe cannot withstand tariffs and is using this as a threat. He said Guyana will sign the EPA after consultations, or "pragmatically earlier if the European Commission continues with its bully boy tactics of seeking to impose tariffs on our exports."

He said, "I feel we should do only what is necessary to make us World Trade Organisation (WTO) compatible as agreed to in the COTONOU agreement and we should forge greater solidarity with those countries who are initialled partial EPS and those who have not initialled anything so far," the Head of State said.

The President had long before expressed his dissatisfaction with the agreement and the short time frame which the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries were given to sign the agreement.

The President also addressed the issue of the EU's insistence during negotiations with the EPA for the protection of the sugar industry in Martinique and Guadeloupe. He noted however, that this is not being reciprocated for the region's industry.

“Sometimes I feel that it boils down to the question of philosophy and we are seduced by the rhetoric of free trade, rhetoric which is not practiced in the developed part of the world,” the Head of State said.

President Jagdeo stated that there is need for strong argument for preferential treatment for the region.

“On the EPA we need to have a practical approach, there are many good things enshrined in the agreement as it currently stands and we should seek to preserve those,” he said.

The Head of State noted that governments must decide whether during bilateral relations with the EU there will be intraregional competition and fragmentation.

“Are we going to be competing with each other because we are entering into disagreement not as a region but as individual countries?” President Jagdeo asked.

<http://www.caribbeannetnews.com/news-8919--13-13--.html>

*EU and Southern African countries ready to sign interim EPA by October 2008
EPA FLASH NEWS issued by the Directorate General for Trade European Commission
Senior officials from the European Commission and SADC (Southern African Development Community, including Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia and Swaziland) met in Gaborone (Botswana) on 2-4 July 2008. Progress in talks on the EU-SADC interim EPA could lead to signing the agreement in October 2008. The agreement would be notified to the WTO immediately thereafter. These countries call for a wide-ranging full-fledged EPA, with ambitious commitments on Services and Investment. In the meantime, tariff negotiations with South Africa have resumed, following an exchange of offers on agricultural products. The EU is ready to accept a single offer from SACU (Southern African Customs Union), and South Africa is considering whether to conclude an ambitious tariff deal, or a much more limited agreement. Although Angola has decided not to participate in the interim agreement, it could also join Full EPA negotiations by the end of the year. Angola, Namibia and South Africa have presented a list of 'concerns' that they would like to address within Full EPA talks.

*Joint EC-SADC EPA TWG on Market Access
2-3 July 2008

*Report of the Joint SADC-EC EPA Technical Working Group Meeting on Trade in Services and Investment: Negotiating Round 30th June – 4th July 2008
2nd -3rd July 2008, Gaborone, Botswana

*Nigerian President seeks ECOWAS Reform

According to President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, the socioeconomic integration of member states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) will not be realised in good time unless the regional body undergoes urgent structural and institutional reforms. The comment was made while the President addressed the 34th Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS. President Yar'Adua lamented that non-tariff barriers to trade in the West African region have been affecting its integration process. "This has arisen from the fact that there have been conflicting interpretations of the protocols in different countries in dissonance with

the spirit and letter of the protocols. We owe a duty to our peoples to make the operationalisation of these protocols more robust and efficient", he said.

02.07.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48170&cat_id=1026

*Competition toughens amidst EAC integration

In the midst of an impending head-on competition as the East Africa Community (EAC) takes shape, players in the Ugandan private sector are negotiating a tough juncture for a full blown war.

02.07.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48169&cat_id=1026

*15th MEETING OF THE SADC EPA SENIOR OFFICIALS

1-2 July, 2008

GABORONE – BOTSWANA

*Caribbean Head Communique. 01-04.07.08

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM), 1-4 JULY 2008, BOLANS, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

http://www.caricom.org/jsp/pressreleases/pres216_08.jsp

Heads of Government reviewed the process towards signature of the CARIFORUM-EC Partnership Agreement, to which several of them expressed readiness to sign.

They also considered possible implications of some provisions of the Agreement particularly for the designated Less Developed Countries of CARICOM.

Heads of Government noted that national consultations would be held in Guyana before a decision is taken to sign the Agreement.

Heads of Government welcomed the confirmation of Barbados for the signing of the Agreement with 30 July or 30 August as possible dates for the event.

Financially-challenged Guyana, which says it has the most to lose from a one-size-fits-all all-encompassing trade deal with the EU, stuck to its guns throughout the three-day summit.

When Guyana did not cave in to richer Caricom colleagues, the leaders agreed to take one more look at the EPA before final agreement for national sign-off by each territory in late July.

Guyana maintains that the EPA will give Europe a favoured trading partner status which could impact on possible future deals with other parts of the world.

Guyana's president Bharat Jagdeo also argues that there had been a basic mistake for the Caribbean to sign quickly under pressure from Europe for a deal to replace former EU preferential trade access for the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) grouping.

07.07.08

http://www.bbc.co.uk/caribbean/news/story/2008/07/080705_caricomwrap.shtml

The decision to postpone the signing may change timetables and indeed how the Cariforum position itself develops.

***CARICOM Development Fund**

Heads of Government welcomed the launch of the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) with the requisite signatures for its provisional application.

They observed that the launch, with an initial sum of US \$60 million towards its target of US\$ 250 million, was an event of signal importance to the integration process given that the Fund was critical to achieving the objectives of equitable distribution of the benefits of the CSME.

Heads of Government commended all contributing states from both within and outside the Community for having made the CDF a reality.

They recalled that the Fund was intended to provide financial and technical assistance to Disadvantaged Countries, Regions and Sectors. They observed that their decision to add a more outwardly oriented and dynamic element to the mandate of the Fund had been captured by the inclusion of a Regional Development Division in the CDF and called on the international financial and donor community to provide tangible support to this new institution.

***SACU Council says it will sign EPA by 1 July**

Report said ministers said they would during its fifteenth Council of Ministers meeting held in Midrand.

http://www.bilaterals.org/article.php3?id_article=12539

***French President Sarkozy reply to Taubira on her EPA report**

<http://www2.christiane-taubira.org/cms/uploads/Lettre%20PR%20%C3%A0%20Taubira%20-%20APE.pdf>

***Senegal: selected issues, IMF country report. 07.08**

IMF country report No. 08/221, July 2008

This Selected Issues for Senegal was prepared by a staff team of the International Monetary Fund as background documentation for the periodic consultation with the member country. It is based on the information available at the time it was completed on May 30, 2008.

I. Senegal—Assessment of the REER and External Competitiveness 3

A. Introduction 3

B. Senegal's Export Performance 4

C. Developments of the REER 6

D. Empirical Analysis of the Equilibrium REER 8

E. Analysis of Structural Measures of Competitiveness 14

F. Policy Implications and Conclusions 18

References 19

II. Policies to Protect the Poor from Rising Energy and Food Prices in Senegal 20

A. Introduction 20

B. The Distributional Impact of Food Price Inflation and Policy Measures Taken 20

C. The Distributional Impact of High Energy Prices and Mitigating Policy

Measures 24
D. Short-Term Policy Options 28
E. Longer-Term Policy Options: A Conditional Cash Transfer System 31
F. Conclusion 37
References 38
III. Fiscal Implications of an Economic Partnership Agreement 39
A. Introduction 39
B. Fiscal Aspects of an EPA: an Assessment of Potential Revenue Losses 40
C. The Infant-Industry Argument and Other Aspects of an EPA 47
D. Conclusion 49
References 50
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/library_detail.php?doc_language=en&library_detail_id=4492

*COMESA Heads appoint Sindiso Ngwenya as Secretary General 30.06.08
And Stephen Karangizi as the Assistant Secretary General in charge of Programmes.
An extra-ordinary Summit of the COMESA Heads of State and Government that took place at Sharm El Sheikh in the Arab Republic of Egypt, on 30 June 2008, has appointed Mr Sindiso Ngwenya of the Republic of Zimbabwe, as the COMESA Secretary General, and Mr Stephen Karangizi of the Republic of Uganda as the Assistant Secretary General in charge of Programmes.
http://www.comesa.int/News_Item.2007-12-12.2857

*Press Release on the Conclusion of the 15th SACU Council of Ministers Meeting held on the 27th June 2008 in Midrand South Africa.
<http://www.sacu.int/docs/pr/2008/pr0627a.pdf>

*SACU Council of Ministers' meeting on Friday 27th June 2008
http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48928&cat_id=6364

*ECOWAS Impact Study on Import tax harmonisation and EPAs Validation meeting.
Press reports
http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48929&cat_id=6364

*UEMOA Council conclusions. Press Release. 26.06.08
http://www.uemoa.int/actualite/Communique_%20press_CM_26_06_2008.pdf

*UEMOA Council Communique de Press 26.06.08
http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48930&cat_id=6364

*UEMOA Council. Press Reports 26.06.08
http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48931&cat_id=6364

*EAC Council welcomes increased regional trade 01.07.08

A review of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union was also due

Trade within the East African Community (EAC) has increased by 20 percent since 2004, according to Eriya Kategaya, chairperson of the EAC Council of Ministers.

It was revealed that trade among the three founder states (Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda) has risen from US\$1.53 billion in 2004 to US\$1.9 billion in 2008. New members Burundi and Rwanda were excluded as they are due to migrate to the Customs Union in 2009.

Negotiations for the implementation of the Customs Union are currently underway. The implementation of the Customs Union is progressing well which is resulting in increased trade within and among partner states.

Kategaya, who is also the Ugandan Minister in charge of EAC Affairs, added that the figure would have been higher but the emerging and lucrative markets in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Southern Sudan have attracted a significant share of EAC exports.

The comments were made last week while Kategaya presented a progress report for November 2006 to February 2008 at the 9th Summit of the EAC Heads of State in Kigali, Rwanda.

The primary features of a Customs Union include common import tariffs, quota-free movement of (tradable) goods amongst constituent territories, and the establishment of common safety measures for regulating the importation of goods from third parties.

The five EAC member states are hoping that the Common Market Protocol will usher in a single regional Customs territory with all its attendant economies of scale. Negotiations for a Common Market Protocol began late because of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in November last year in Kampala, as well as the events which followed the elections in Kenya in December 2007.

According to Kategaya, the EAC will create a single market of over 90 million people and a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of around US\$30 billion. He reported that the internal tariff elimination programme is on course to attaining the zero percent target on all items traded within the bloc by 2010.

"The Council adopted a mechanism for the identification, elimination and forestalling of non-tariff barriers to trade that is being implemented. All these developments have had a positive impact on the ongoing negotiations for the establishment of the EAC market that will entail free movement of all the factors of production", he added.

Delegates at the summit were also told that the negotiating team has thus far attained broad consensus on a few items of the draft protocol, including the free movement of goods, persons, and labour. Kategaya said that multisectoral committees of ministers and permanent secretaries will be considering these items in due course, adding that ministers of finance and the central banks continue to work on harmonisation of fiscal and monetary policies in preparation for an EAC Monetary Union by 2012.

A review of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union was also due

01.07.08

https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=48097&cat_id=1026

*Raport UEMOA Réunion du Conseil des Ministres Statutaire 26.06.08
Le Conseil des Ministres de l'Union s'est réuni en session ordinaire, le 26 juin 2008 à
Dakar,

<http://www.uemoa.int/BullInfo/Bull208.pdf>

*EAC Summit Communiqué. 26.06.08

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 9TH ORDINARY SUMMIT OF EAC HEADS OF STATE
Addressing Infrastructure Challenges to Leverage the East African Market
KIGALI SERENA HOTEL, KIGALI, RWANDA
26TH JUNE 2008

http://www.eac.int/images/stories/communiqu%20-%2009th%20ordinary%20summit%20kigali%20serena%20hotel%20june%2026th%202008_2_.pdf

*ESA-EC EPA Technical Negotiations Results. EC Press Release. 23-25.06.08

The technical negotiating teams of the Eastern and Southern Africa Group (ESA) and the European Commission met in Brussels on 23-25 June 2008 to exchange information on the state of play of their internal procedures regarding the signature and the ratification of the ESA Interim EPA. The meeting was held in a very good and cooperative atmosphere. The agenda was very complete covering a wide range of issues, such as market access, services, investments and trade related issues. Technical discussions were divided among two Working Groups: Group I on Market Access - including Agriculture, Development, Trade Facilitation, Trade Related Issues and Dispute Settlement - and Group II on Services.

Market access discussions continued on issues such as MFN, standstill, flexibility, export taxes and safeguards. Discussions on the Development chapter focussed on the need to link the region's Development Cooperation Strategy with the 10th EDF Regional Strategy Paper and Regional Indicative Programme and to refine the Development Matrix so that it becomes a useful tool for defining an investment plan. The parties agreed on the next steps to be taken.

The meetings on services and investment have been very helpful in clarifying the region's questions and comments on substance and process as well as in giving the experts the opportunity to engage in a detailed analysis and comparison of the texts that both parties had tabled earlier. On trade related issues, experts from both sides agreed to work on the basis of a joint text with regard to Intellectual Property Rights, Competition and Sustainable Development.

Furthermore, the Parties made significant progress in the drafting of a joint text that acknowledges the importance of customs and trade facilitation matters in the evolving global trading environment and outlines a number of objectives in this area. Both teams agree to reinforce cooperation with a view to ensuring that the relevant legislation and procedures, as well as the administrative capacity of the relevant administrations, fulfil the objective of promoting of trade facilitation. These should also help promote the development and regional integration of ESA countries. Both regions acknowledge the need for proper administrative capacity to meet these objectives.

Both Parties agreed to meet at technical, senior official and possibly ministerial levels in ESA region in the second half of September 2008.

http://ec.europa.eu/trade/issues/bilateral/regions/acp/pr250608_en.htm

*Final Communique of the ECOWAS Thirty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government
Abuja, 23 June 2008

Regarding the West Africa-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the Authority took note of the progress made in the negotiations, notably in the preparation of the regional liberalization schedule, formulation of development programmes and drafting of the text of the Agreement.

Recalling the principle of a regional agreement covering all West African countries, and reaffirming their commitment to a participatory and unified approach to the negotiations, the Authority took note of the progress made in harmonization of some provisions of the interim agreements. It noted that the interim agreements would cease to exist upon the signature of the regional comprehensive EPA.

The Authority directed the ECOWAS Commission to take all necessary measures to finalise the outstanding tasks required to conclude a fair, balanced and development oriented

agreement which takes into consideration the concerns of West Africa's population.

http://www.ecowas.int/publications/en/communique_final/Communique_final_amende_sommet.pdf

*EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION TECHNICAL MEETING ON
TRADE RELATED ISSUES
18 JUNE 2008, ADDIS ABABA

*EC-SADC EPA JOINT SENIOR OFFICIALS NEGOTIATING ROUND
18.06.08

*Regional Dialogue in Kigali on the Interim EAC-EU EPA. 17-18.06.08
They will prepare a final document, which they hope will be able to contribute to the negotiating position of the EAC.

*EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION TECHNICAL MEETING ON
TRADE IN SERVICES
17 JUNE 2008, ADDIS ABABA

*EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION TECHNICAL MEETING ON
MARKET ACCESS
16 JUNE 2008. ADDIS

*Taubira Report to France President (current EU Council President) on EPAs. English summary

http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48932&cat_id=6364

*ATELIER DE VALIDATION DE L'ETUDE D'IMPACT DE L'HARMONISATION DES TAUX DE L'IMPÔT SUR LES BENEFICES DES SOCIETES (BIC/IS) ET DES ACCORDS DE PARTENARIAT ECONOMIQUE SUR LES RECETTES DES ETATS MEMBRES DE L'UEMOA
Dakar, du 25 au 27 juin 2008

*EC-ESA EPA Technical Negotiations Meeting 23-25.06.08

*Report to [French](#) President Sarkozy ([current EU Council President](#)) from Christiane Taubira on the EU-ACP EPAs
Mandated by Sarkozy and authored by French MP Christiane Taubira, the report is expected to be discussed later this month by the French president with his EU counterparts, among whom exist some sharp differences following Ireland's rejection by a referendum last month of the Rome Treaty governing the EU.
On 08.07.08, a delegation of Brussels-based diplomats and others met with representatives of the European Commission and left with the clear impression that there remain significant reservations to be faced from EU partners ahead of their own readiness to sign on to negotiated EPAs.
<http://www.normangirvan.info/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/taubira-full-report.pdf>

*Caribbean Regional Civil Society Conference on EPAs. Report. 13.06.08
Meeting Report of the Regional Civil Society Conference on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)
organised by the Caribbean Policy Development Centre, Christian Aid and Oxfam in collaboration with the Federation of Independent Trade Unions & NGOs, Trinidad and Tobago, 13 June 2008
The objectives of the conference were to strategically review the current agreement with the view to making recommendations to policy makers on the way forward and, as an offensive strategy, to discuss the parameters for monitoring the implementation of the agreement.
Document (EN): [CSOs_EN_130608_CPDC_Meeting-report.pdf](#)
External link (EN):
http://www.cpdngo.org/IMG/pdf/Meeting_Report_Regional_Civil_Society_Conference.pdf

*Fostering Trade Through Public-Private Dialogue. Business Implications of EPA Negotiations for SADC.
11-12.06.07 ITC
<http://www.intracen.org/aboutitc/events/itc.htm>

*SADC SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING ON TRADE, INDUSTRY, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT (TIFI)
11 June 2007, 9H00

* SACU Technical meeting on the WTO Doha Development round NAMA negotiations
11.06.08

*Aid for Trade. What can it deliver for development? CUTS meeting report
And presentations. June 5th 2008, London

<http://www.cuts-london.org/events/AidforTrade-Whatcanitdeliverfordevelopment.htm>

*Rules of Origin and the European Union's Preferential Trade Agreements, with Special Reference to the EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements. DIIS. 07.08

Economic opinion is in the process of re-interpreting low levels of uptake of non-reciprocal preferential trade agreements (PTAs) partly in terms of administrative barriers to preference utilization. Primary amongst these barriers are Rules of Origin. This paper reviews the literature on Rules of Origin as administrative barriers to the utilization of preferences accorded to African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries under the Cotonou Agreement, before going on to examine current revisions of EU PTA Rules of Origin. These are embodied in a new (so-called 'Cotonou+') set of rules for the interim EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and a second proposed set of rules for the EU's Generalised System of Preference (GSP) arrangements, including Everything But Arms.

The Cotonou+ rules include some important concessions by the EU, especially for those ACP countries that do not have Least Developed Country (LDC) status, but are supposed to be re-negotiated within a fixed period in line the new EU GSP rules. However, the new GSP rules as revealed in the EU Draft Regulation of 2007 contain no real concessions for non-LDCs, and they introduce potentially trade-restrictive administrative requirements. These rules are currently (July 2008) under reconsideration by the EU, but it is clear that this exercise does not cover these elements. For this reason, harmonisation of the Cotonou+ and new GSP rules may be a source a serious discord in the negotiation of full EPAs, a process which is supposed to occur during 2008.

http://www.diis.dk/graphics/Publications/WP2008/WP08-15_Rules_of_Origin_and_the_European_Union%92s_Preferential_Trade_Agreements.pdf

*Meeting of the SACU Task Team on Regional Integration, 2 – 3 June 2008
Johannesburg South Africa

<http://www.sacu.int/main.php?include=docs/news/2008/news0618.html>

*The EPA at a Glance...

An Overview of the CARIFORUM-EC Economic Partnership Agreement

http://www.crn.org/documents/ACP_EU_EPA/epa_agreement/The_EPA_at_a_Glance_July08.pdf

*Economic Partnership Agreements Negotiations. A Comparative Assessment of the Interim Agreements. UNECA

<http://www.uneca.org/cfm/2008/docs/EcoPartnership.pdf>

*CEMAC-EC-Joint EPA Experts Meeting

*Arbitration and Mediation in ACP-EU relations. Conference report. 21.05.08

ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

http://www.arbitration-adr.org/activities/AIA%20Conference%20EU-ACP_Conclusions.pdf

*South African Minister regrets impact of EU EPAs on Regional Unity
14.05.08

Minister Dlamini Zuma regrets the impact of European Union (EU) Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) on Regional Unity

Cape Town: South Africa's engagement with the European Union is legally regulated through the Trade, Development and Co-operation Agreement (TDCA). In 2005, South Africa commenced a review of this instrument. That process is nearly complete and will be presented during the envisaged Summit with the European Union on 25 July 2008, in Nantes, France.

During this review process South Africa proposed to lift out the trade chapter and review it within the context of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations. This we did correctly guided by our own interest to promote greater convergence in the trade regime amongst the countries of our region. After a long delay the EU agreed to this approach.

Regrettably the impact of these EPA negotiations has tended to subvert our efforts towards regional integration. Not only have Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries been parcelled into different EPAs. Consequently, in December last year we saw deep cleavages appearing even among the Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU) members. South Africa, Angola and to some extent Namibia are raising concerns on account of both the imbalance in the exchange of concessions and on the negative implications for regional integration contained within the interim EPAs.

We remain of the firm view that we should continue to do everything we can to ensure our region indeed acts in a manner consistent with imperatives to advance regional integration. In this context we appeal to our partners in the EU, to respect this especially as they know from their own experience, how critical this is, to enable our countries to grow their economies and benefit from the unstoppable force of globalisation.

Enquiries:

Ronnie Mamoepa

Cell: 082 990 4853

Issued by: Department of Foreign Affairs

14 May 2008

[http://www.search.gov.za/info/previewDocument.jsp?dk=%2Fdata%2Fstatic%2Finfo%2Fspeeches%2F2008%2F08051510151001.htm%40SpeechesandStatements&q=\(\(dlamini+zuma%2C+dlamini-zuma\)%3CIN%3ETitle+\)+%3CAND%3E\(+Category%3Cmatches%3Es+\)&t=N+Dlamini+Zuma+on+European+Union+Economic+Partnership+Agreements+\(EPAs\)+on+Regional+Unity](http://www.search.gov.za/info/previewDocument.jsp?dk=%2Fdata%2Fstatic%2Finfo%2Fspeeches%2F2008%2F08051510151001.htm%40SpeechesandStatements&q=((dlamini+zuma%2C+dlamini-zuma)%3CIN%3ETitle+)+%3CAND%3E(+Category%3Cmatches%3Es+)&t=N+Dlamini+Zuma+on+European+Union+Economic+Partnership+Agreements+(EPAs)+on+Regional+Unity)

*Effects of EPA on SACU

By Catherine Sasman

Tuesday, 22nd of April 2008

With disparate positions to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations, there are fears that this could mean the end of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU). New Era spoke to SACU Executive Secretary, Tswelopele Moremi, and Director: Policy Development & Research, Anton Faul, to find out more.

<http://www.newera.com.na/archives.php?id=20487>

*Press Release on the conclusion of the 14th SA CU Council of Ministers' Meeting which was held in Gaborone Botswana 04 April 2008.

http://www.dgroups.org/groups/CoOL/index.cfm?op=dsp_resource_details&resource_id=48933&cat_id=6364

*STUDY OF THE IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY OF ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE ECONOMY OF UGANDA
07.04

http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/files/TRADES_EN_0704_ACTADE_Study-of-the-impact.pdf

General Trade-WTO Issues

*14.07.08 What have EU Trade Policies done for developing countries? A look at the evidence

CEPR Discussion with EC DG Trade Director. 13.00-14.00

The Centre for Economic Policy Research has the pleasure of inviting you to a discussion meeting:

What have EU Trade Policies done for developing countries?

A look at the evidence

Monday 14 July 2008

Brussels

Speaker: Professor Simon Evenett (University of St. Gallen and CEPR)

Chair: Peter Thompson (Director, Development and EPAs, DG Trade, European Commission)

Date: Monday 14 July 2008

Time: Buffet Reception 12:30 - 13:00; Presentation and Discussion 13:00 - 14:00

Location: Maelbeek Room, Residence Palace, Rue de la loi 155, 1040 Brussels

EU Member States and the European Commission often assert that the EU's multiple trade preference schemes are a concrete manifestation of Europe's commitment to the development of poorer nations through trade. But what do we really know about the impact of these measures? Do they actually affect developing countries evenly? By how much?

In this presentation Professor Evenett will provide a comprehensive yet accessible overview of the empirical findings concerning the operation of the EU's trade preference schemes. Having ground the discussion in facts and findings, he will assess if there is a

gap between European aspirations and the outcomes on the ground. Implications will be drawn for European trade and development policies in general, including those initiatives associated with the Doha Round.

<http://www.cepr.org/meets/ltn/2394/>

*15.07.08 EU Presidency trade priorities presentation to EP

European Parliament Committee on International Trade

15 July 2008, 10.15 – 11.45

Presentation by State Secretary Mrs Idrac, Minister in charge of the external trade, representing the president-in-office of the Council, on the priorities of the French Presidency in the area of international trade policy

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/oj/733/733817/733817en.pdf

*World Economic Forum. Enabling Trade Index

Among the main obstacles to international trade in East Africa are poor transport and communications infrastructure, security concerns, and inefficient administration, according to a report by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

The Enabling Trade Index was published last week by the influential Swiss think-tank, and measures the ease with which goods can flow across borders. Factors such as each country's border administration, tariffs, infrastructure, and business environment are considered when making the rankings.

Uganda is ranked the fifth best country in Africa for facilitating trade, while Kenya and Tanzania are seventh and 18th respectively.

Uganda is ranked 79th in the world and is praised for its strong regulatory environment with rules which encourage foreign investment, making it easy to hire foreign workers. The country has relatively high import tariffs, which is offset by its non-tariff barriers being the lowest in the world. The country also scores poorly for its transport and communications infrastructure, and security worries are cited as an impediment to trade. Kenya is ranked 86th globally, scoring highly for its strong air transport links and the large number of imports which are free of tariffs. However, trade is made more difficult by the nation's inefficient border administration and poor internet and telephone infrastructure. The security situation in the country is identified as its greatest weakness because it increases the difficulty of getting goods to their destination.

Tanzania ranks a disappointing 102nd overall. Policies which facilitate foreign investment in its companies are its primary strength, according to the WEF.

<http://www.weforum.org/en/initiatives/gcp/GlobalEnablingTradeReport/index.htm>

*BRIDGES Weekly Trade News Digest - Vol. 12, Number 25 9 July 2008

<http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/index.htm>

*EC DG Trade Market Access Newsletter. 30.06.08

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2008/july/tradoc_139532.pdf

Non-State Actors, Local Governments, Parliaments

*Consolidated version - Charter Local Governance support the version of the Charter sent to the European Commission to be annexed to the Communication on the theme "Local authorities, actors for development." Please note that the multi-actor consultation remains open until Friday August 29th on the Charter website www.localgovernance-coop-charter.eu

Or by mail :

lionel.vignacq@diplomatie.gouv.fr; ivan.crouzel@diplomatie.gouv.fr; emilie.maehara@diplomatie.gouv.fr

The amended document will be transmitted to the European Commission 7 July in order to be annexed as a Charter proposal (integral provisional document) to the Communication on "Local authorities, actors for development." The Communication and its annex will be submitted to an internal consultation this summer and presented to the European institutions in September. We expect conclusions from the GAERC on November 10 11th

They would like to present the Charter during the European Development Days that will take place in Strasbourg (15-17 November) on the theme of Local Governance and decentralised cooperation.

<http://www.localgovernance-coop-charter.eu/>

All the best,

Melissa

Melissa Julian

European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)

Tel./Fax. 32 (0) 2 380 31 55

Mobile Tel. 32 (0) 47 769 44 91

e-mail: melissa.julian@pandora.be

<http://www.ecdpm.org>

<http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/>

Visit [ECDPM's News and Events Page](#) for the latest ACP, EU and ECDPM news, updated daily!

IMPORTANT - CONFIDENTIAL: The information contained in this e-mail is intended for the person to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. The contents of this message may contain personal views which are not the views of the ECDPM, unless specifically stated. You should not copy, retain, forward or disclose its contents to anyone else, or take any action based upon it, if it is not addressed to you personally. If you have received this e-mail in error please contact the sender immediately. Melissa Julian, e-mail: melissa.julian@pandora.be