

ACP - EEC CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Working Documents

1976 - 1977

2 JUNE 1976

DOC. 3/76

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION¹

submitted by Mr Satcam BOOLELL

on behalf of the Joint Committee

on

activities relating to the Lomé Convention
during the interim period and since its entry into force.

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¹ Adopted unanimously, with two abstentions, by the Joint Committee at its meeting of 2 June 1976 in Luxembourg.

Present: Mr Deschamps and Mr Kasongo Mukundji (Zaire), chairmen; Mr Boollell (Mauritius), rapporteur; Mr Aigner, Mr Albertsen (deputizing for Mr Espersen), Mr Baas, Mr Behrendt (deputizing for Mr Seefeld), Mr Bersani, Mrs Mathé (Botswana), Mr Brégégère (deputizing for Mr Fellermaier), Mr Broeksz, Mr Nzeyimana (Burundi), Mr Ewane Ekwabi (Cameroon), Mr Mokodopo (Central African Republic), Mr Mounthault (Congo), Mr Corona, Mr Ebagnitchie (Ivory Coast), Mr Dalyell (deputizing for Mr de Freitas), Mr Dondelinger, Mr Durieux, Mr Endeshaw (Ethiopia), Mr Sambhat (Gabon), Mr Cham (Gambia), Mr Ebchil (Ghana), Mr Glinne, Mrs Goutmann, Mr Mormory (Guinea), Mr Dyett (Guyana), Mr Hamilton (deputizing for Miss Boothroyd), Mr Hunault (deputizing for Mr Kaspereit), Mr Francis (Jamaica), Mr Jakobsen, Mr Mulwa (Kenya), Mr Lagorce, Mr Matete Majara (Lesotho), Mr Diallo (Mali), Mr Fall Babaha (Mauritania), Mr Mursch, Mr B. Nielsen, Mr Knud Nielsen, Mr Maigana (Niger), Mr Ijewere (Nigeria), Mr Kihuguru (Uganda), Lord Reay, Mr Ndahimana (Rwanda), Lord St. Oswald, Mr Schuijt, Mr Schulz (deputizing for Mr Hürschel), Mr Scott-Hopkins, Mr Guillabert (Senegal), Mr Kanu (Sierra Leone), Mr Mallan Hashi (Somali), Mr Mamoun (Sudan), Mr Spenale, Mr Dhlaniini (Swaziland), Mr Laotegguelnodji (Chad), Mr Lambony Bomboma (Togo), Mr Lewis (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr Vandewiele, Lord Walston, Mrs Walz, Mr Sikota (Zambia).

The Joint Committee hereby submits to the ACP/EEC Consultative Assembly the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on activities relating to the Lomé Convention during the interim period and since its entry into force.

The ACP/EEC Consultative Assembly,

- having heard the speeches by the representatives of the ACP/EEC Council of Ministers and of the Council and the Commission of the European Communities;
- recalling the final declaration adopted at the preparatory meeting and reaffirming its resolve to maintain the spirit of solidarity and open-mindedness evinced during the negotiations on the Convention in order to create a genuine model of cooperation based on equality between the partners, respect for their sovereignty and mutual interests, with a view to pursuing effective action, both within the organs of the Convention and towards the outside world, leading to the construction of a new, more equitable and more balanced international economic order more in accordance with the aspirations of the international community;
- stressing that the Lomé Convention and the spirit which has infused it can and should provide a positive indication for other negotiations between industrialized and developing countries;

1. Welcomes the entry into force of the ACP/EEC Convention of Lomé on 1 April 1976;
2. Notes that, thanks to the work of the Interim Committee, part of the provisions of the Lomé Convention have been satisfactorily applied in advance;

3. Emphasizes its support for the provisions of the Convention setting up a system for stabilizing the export earnings of the ACP countries, and notes that it has been agreed that these provisions will be applied from the period beginning on 1 January 1975 which will allow financial transfers to be made in the near future to the ACP; expresses the hope, moreover, that the number of products covered by the Stabex system will soon be increased;
4. Welcomes the fact that Protocol No. 3 on sugar has been applied since 1 March 1975, while regretting that negotiations concerning the guaranteed price for ACP sugar, which has to be fixed for 1976, have not yet been completed;
5. Makes an urgent appeal to the participants in these negotiations to find a satisfactory and equitable solution as soon as possible within the framework of Protocol No. 3 on sugar;
6. Draws the attention of the Council of the European Communities to the concern of those ACP States that export beef and veal over the difficulties encountered on the Community market; welcomes the fact that an interim agreement has been concluded and calls for its consolidation;
7. Welcomes the fact that, thanks to the programming missions to the ACP States in the interim period, the Commission of the European Communities was able to adopt the initial decisions on financing under the fourth EDF on 11 May 1976;
8. Notes that the policy for EDF financing permits great flexibility in that it includes both non-repayable aid, loans on special terms and commercial loans from the European Investment Bank and that it recognizes the priorities chosen by the ACP States themselves;
9. Supports the practical measures to be undertaken within the framework of the European Development Fund in favour of the least developed countries referred to in Article 48 of the Convention and of the regional and inter-regional cooperation projects between the ACP States;
10. Notes with regret that although the institutional arrangements concerning the Consultative Assembly have been completed in the best possible conditions, the date for the inaugural meeting of the ACP/EEC Council of Ministers has not yet been set; stresses that this is seriously detrimental to the smooth operation of the

Convention, especially in the field of industrial cooperation; therefore urges the Council to meet as soon as possible;

11. Insists that in all matters affecting the parties to the Convention the fullest possible consultation should take place as provided for in the Convention;
12. Welcomes in this context the political good sense shown by the Commission of the European Communities in proposing the opening of negotiations with Sao Tomé and Príncipe and with the Cape Verde Islands without waiting for formal acceptance of their applications for accession to the Lomé Convention; notes at the same time with pleasure the applications made by Surinam, the Comoro Islands and Papua-New Guinea; invites the Council to give a favourable response to their applications for accession and urges that aid and assistance be granted as soon as possible to enable these countries to cope with a difficult and often tragic economic situation due, in some cases, to the special circumstances under which they achieved independence;
13. Instructs its Joint Committee to submit to it as soon as possible proposals for consulting organizations representative of the economic and social sectors, pursuant to Article 80(5) of the Lomé Convention; hopes that the ACP/EEC Council of Ministers will adopt at the earliest opportunity the procedures for the implementation of Article 74(6) of the Convention;
14. Instructs its Presidents to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities, and to the competent authorities in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States.