



**CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
LOMÉ CONVENTION  
(EEC-ACP)**

**First meeting — Luxembourg, June 1st to 3rd 1976**

Special edition

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## **Introduction**

The Lomé Convention is a new agreement signed at Lomé, capital of Togo, on February 28th 1975 between the European Community and 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

One of the provisions of the Convention, which came into force on April 1st 1976, is that a Consultative Assembly be set up to keep an eye on the actual implementation of the convention itself.

This Consultative Assembly held its constituent meeting in Luxembourg from June 1st to 3rd. What follows is an account of the Assembly's proceedings.

## **Background**

### **The Community's sense of commitment and the agreements this has led to**

The European Community has always felt a strong sense of commitment to the world's developing countries. This has led, in turn, to:

1. The Yaoundé Convention signed at Yaoundé, capital of Cameroon, between the Community of the Six and 18 African and Malagasy States. This came into force on June 1st 1964 and ran for five years. The Convention made provision for a parliamentary conference to keep an eye on the actual implementation of the convention.
2. The Second Yaoundé Convention between the Six and the 18 came into force on January 1st 1971 and was to run until January 31st 1975. Mauritius became a party to the convention in 1973. The Parliamentary Conference continued in being.
3. The Arusha Agreement signed between the Community of the Six and Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. It came into force on January 1st 1971 and was to run until January 31st 1975.

4. The Lomé Convention, signed between the new Community of the Nine and 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries at Lomé, capital of Togo, on February 28th 1975. The old parliamentary conference was now to be replaced by a Consultative Assembly.

## **The actual provisions of the Lomé Convention**

### **Trade**

There is no duty charged on imports into the EC of ACP industrial products. Some 96 per cent of agricultural products also come in duty-free. The exceptions are such products as maize, beef, rice and cut flowers, i.e. where the Community's common agricultural policy applies.

In 1974 the Community absorbed some 70 per cent of ACP exports and supplied some 60 per cent of their imports.

The ACP are under no obligation to offer the Community the same terms for her exports.

### **Sugar**

When the Commonwealth Sugar agreement expired on December 21st 1974 its place was taken by a commitment, under the Lomé Convention, for the Community of the Nine to buy 1.4 million tons of sugar from the ACP countries at or above a minimum guaranteed price every year.

### **Stabex**

The Community has set up a 375 mua (equivalent to some 214 million pounds) fund to offset any fluctuations in ACP export earnings from : tea, coffee, cocoa, cotton, peanuts, coconuts, palm and palm kernel products, leather and hides, timber, bananas, raw sisal and iron ore. If earnings from these ACP exports fall by 7.5 per cent below a reference level and if these earnings are equal to 7.5 per cent of their export income, the export receipts stabilization fund will step in to top up these earnings. This is theoretically repayable when the market improves.

There are 34 ACP countries for whom the percentages are reduced to 2.5 per cent. These are islands or land-locked countries. The 'topping up' is not repayable.

### Financial aid

3,390 mua is to be granted as aid over a five year period; the terms are favourable. Aid will go to help develop crops, build factories, lay roads, build schools and hospitals and so on.

### Industrial Development Centre

Run jointly by the Community and the ACP, the Centre will promote investment and help the ACP to diversify.

### Institutions

The Lomé Convention is run by a Council (comprising one member from each ACP government and members of the European Community's Council and Commission), a Committee of Ambassadors (one representative of each ACP country, one representative of each Community country and one representative of the Commission) and a Consultative Assembly.

### **The importance of the Lomé Convention**

Mr Babacar Ba, ACP Chairman, has described Lomé as 'a revolutionary agreement'. Mr Francois-Xavier Ortoli, President of the Community's Commission spoke of it as 'a turning point in history.'

See also:

The Economist of July 17th 1976 (volume 260, Number 6933 pp 64-65)

World development notes Nos 4 and 5. (Published as part of the joint Development Education Programme of Trócaire and the Irish Commission for Justice and Peace, 130, Booterstown Avenue, Co Dublin).

## **The Consultative Assembly**

### **Proceedings at the Constituent Meeting**

**in Luxembourg,**

**June 1st to 3rd 1976**

#### **The opening ceremony**

The opening ceremony was dignified by the presence of his His Royal Highness Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg and of Her Royal Highness Grand Duchess Josephine-Charlotte. Mr Georges Spénale, Co-President of the Consultative Assembly, extended a very warm welcome to them to them and then called Mr Raymond Vouel, Deputy Prime Minister of Luxembourg and President of the Council of Ministers to deliver the opening address.

Mr Vouel expressed the Council's thanks, congratulations and best wishes to the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly.

Its thanks, because the movement that was now taking shape had originated from the Assembly, its congratulations, because the diversity of the countries represented in the Assembly had presented no obstacles to this meeting, and its best wishes because the Council hoped that the enterprise would be a success.

The Council needed the opinions and criticisms of the Assembly if it was to achieve the important objectives of the Convention of Lomé and help establish a more harmonious economic order in the world. Although the Council was still meeting in Brussels at the present time it was anxious to be associated with such an important event as the first meeting of the Consultative Assembly.

The Council was determined to fulfil its responsibilities in regard to the implementation of the Convention of Lomé. For the Council, a directly representative body such as the Consultative Assembly was a partner to be reckoned with and one on which it would rely at every stage of the joint implementation of the Convention of Lomé.

Although there were a number of differences of opinion between the European States, it was gratifying to note that on the subject of the Lomé Convention



*Opening ceremony (1 to r) Miss Colette Flesch, Mayor of Luxembourg, Mr Raymond Vouel, Vice-President of the Luxembourg Government, Mr Philippe Yacé and Mr Georges Spénale, co-chairmen of the EEC-ACP Consultative Assembly, Mr van den Bulcke and Mr G A King, co-chairmen of the EEC-ACP Council.*

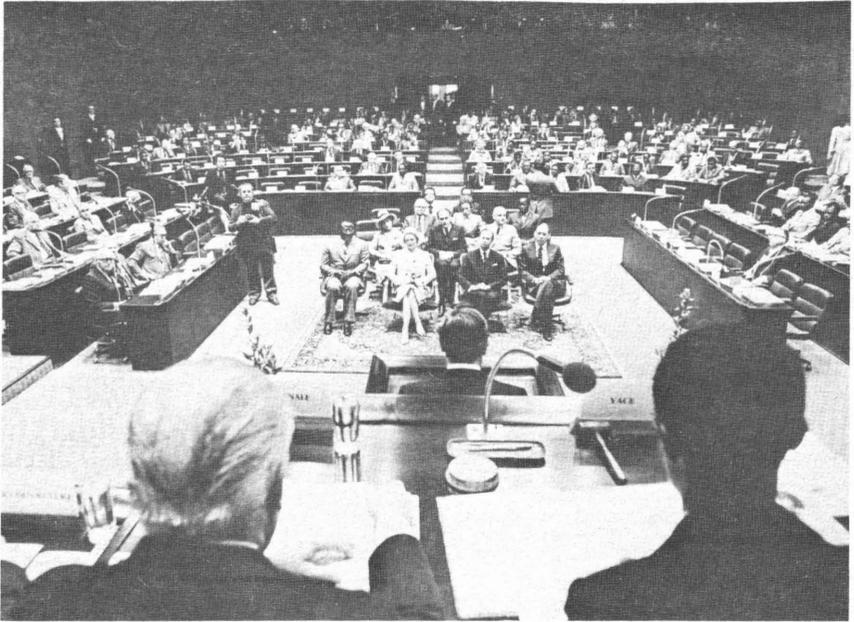
they were, exceptionally, in complete agreement so that the chances of achieving concrete and satisfactory results were considerable.

The Consultative Assembly was the first institution to begin working actively since the Convention had entered into force. He paid tribute to the example set by this first parliamentary meeting and expressed the hope that the ministerial body would also be functioning effectively in the near future.

This speech was greeted with loud applause.

Mr Spénale then called Mr Philippe Yacé, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of the Ivory Coast and Co-President of the Consultative Assembly.

After paying tribute to Their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duke Jean and Grand Duchess Josephine-Charlotte of Luxembourg, Mr Yacé thanked the Luxembourg Government for its hospitality.



*HRH Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg and HRH Grand Duchess Josephine-Charlotte attend the opening ceremony.*

The fact that this meeting was being held two months after the Convention had entered into force reflected a desire to set the Consultative Assembly in operation as soon as possible. The drawing up within a very short time of draft Rules of Procedure acceptable to all concerned was a further achievement. Mr Spénale's efforts to expedite the ratification of the Convention in the Community were also to be welcomed. Thirteen months after the signature of the Convention, this important undertaking was now fully operative.

The first meeting of the Consultative Assembly was being held at a time when the industrialized and developing countries were considering how a new international economic order could be established. It was noticeable that over the years relations between rich and poor countries were concerned less and less with the balance of power and were affected less and less by political considerations. It was gratifying that certain ideas were beginning to gain ground, particularly in regard to the organization of the primary commodity

markets and to a certain extent the serious problem of the debt burdens of the developing countries.

However, it must be admitted that the results of recent international meetings had not been a good example of what the more developed countries could contribute to the developing countries they wished to help.

In this troubled world, the Convention was recognized as a unique model in the history of international economic relations and already its export revenue stabilization machinery had aroused considerable interest.

Now the agreement had to be consolidated. The provisions of the Convention were valuable at the present time and could serve as a model for the future.

If the full benefit was to be derived from the Convention, a dialogue would have to be initiated in which the stronger parties renounced their own interests rather than imposing their will on others. Although based on fundamentally unequal relations, the Convention was clearly designed to establish between the ACP countries and the EEC a cooperation founded on complete equality.

However, true equality should not give the impression that matters that already appeared to have been settled were now once again being called into question, particularly when products of vital importance for the survival of certain ACP countries were involved. In the case of, for example, sugar or beef and veal a fair agreement must be reached as a matter of priority. In general terms, it was essential that the liberalization of trade did not cancel out certain of the advantages granted to the ACP countries under the Convention. It must be remembered that eighteen ACP countries were among the twenty-five poorest countries in the world.

The determination to set the Consultative Assembly in operation without delay was a clear indication that the ACP States were prepared to play their part in implementing the Lomé Convention.

Mr Yacé's speech was greeted with loud applause.

Mr Georges Spénale addressed the Assembly from the Chair. He welcomed all those taking part at the first meeting of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly, the largest international Assembly in the world.

He thanked particularly Their Royal Highnesses, the Grand Duke of Luxembourg and Grand Duchess Josephine Charlotte, as well as the numerous prominent personalities who had honoured the official opening session with their presence.

The President went on to stress that the meeting of the Consultative Assembly was the first step in the negotiation of a 'revolutionary' Agreement, which, at the institutional level, envisaged the creation of a permanent body, the Consultative Assembly, whose function would be to ensure permanent democratic control and to play the part of guarantor.

This agreement is, however, also a point of departure, which should lead to more equitable, just and humane relations than had been the case in the past.

As far as their economies went, the Convention of Lomé was based on complementarity while from the point of view of principles, it was based on solidarity. In the history books it will go down as the symbol of a revolution which gave the Third World access to co-responsibility and to increased prosperity. Already new candidates for accession are coming forward: Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Cape Verde, Surinam, the Comoro islands and New Guinea. They wished to play their part in a revolution comparable to that which in the last century enkindled the national consciousness and gave birth to their nations.

The Convention of Lomé, a model of its kind, should go beyond the letter of its provisions in opening up new horizons of vision, encouragement and determination. In all of this the Assembly will have a vital part to play. The first day of June 1976 will be a day of historic significance, opening the way for the achievement of the goals set last November by President Yacé when he called for 'more social justice with a view to a more equitably shared development to be brought about by means of solidarity and mutual aid'.

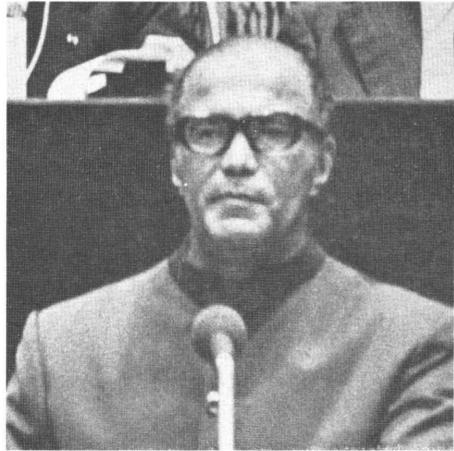
There was loud applause.

Mr Spénale called Mr G A King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection of Guyana and President of the decision-taking Council set up by the Lomé Convention.

Mr G A King expressed the gratitude of the representatives of the ACP States for the warmth of the welcome extended to them by the people of Luxembourg conveyed his good wishes to the Grand Duke.

Mr King's speech was here interrupted by applause.

*Mr G A King, President of the  
EEC-ACP Council addressing the  
Consultative Assembly.*



He congratulated the Joint Presidents of the Assembly for their work in finalising the rules of procedure, and paid tribute to the Assembly's dedicated pursuit of its commitment to implement the provisions of the Lomé Convention. That Convention had been described as a landmark in relations between the developing and developed States and as a model to be emulated. But the Convention was not perfect; some expectations remained unfulfilled and the achievement of a more balanced international economic order was still a distant prospect. The Lomé Convention was a blueprint of economic cooperation which, if fully implemented, would significantly change the lives of millions of people in the ACP States. The Convention identified the instruments by means of which this change might be achieved. Through a frank exchange of views the Consultative Assembly could help to define the essential features of the new order.

A modest beginning had already been made in the ten months since the entry into force of the provisional arrangements under the Lomé Convention. The first steps had been taken in the field of industrial cooperation and in the transfer of resources and technological expertise from the Community to the ACP. Stabex was a vital instrument to remedy the instability of ACP export earnings, but there was a long way to go if it was to have its intended effects.

The entry into force of the Convention on 1 April 1976 should be followed by a substantial disbursement of aid to assist in financing vital ACP projects. The ACP

countries hoped that there would be no attempt to question their own development priorities. Development aid from the Community was an important feature of the overall arrangements under the Convention but must not be used to 'influence enlightened and effective decisions on other matters'; above all aid could not be a substitute for fair and remunerative prices for commodity exports to the Community.

An effective start had been made in the area of trade cooperation but Community measures such as the generalised system of preferences and the offer in respect of tropical products under the GATT multilateral trade negotiations were a threat to this cooperation. The ACP countries were not opposed to the principle of the proposed system but were concerned at the implementing provisions. They were concerned too at the unsatisfactory licensing provisions for their beef exports to the Community which made forward planning impossible.

Referring to the admission of new members to the Lomé Convention, Mr King expressed the concern of the ACP countries at the Community's silence on the applications already submitted. A positive response was hoped for at an early date.

Negotiations were currently in progress on a number of commodities but the ACP countries regretted the Community's retreat from many of the agreed principles in respect of commodities such as sugar. The ACP expected the previously agreed arrangements for determining the price of sugar to be respected.

Turning to the outcome of the recent session of UNCTAD in Nairobi, Mr King stated that 'what has been described by the media as a breakthrough is, upon examination, no more than a postponement of the dialogue to a future date'. UNCTAD had not resulted in total deadlock but a great deal remained to be done. The Consultative Assembly could play a central role in defining perspectives for the future which should be those of 'cooperation in partnership'. The Assembly must help to consolidate the institutions of the Convention and to ensure that they served as instruments of economic development and expansion on both sides. It must inspire public involvement in the objectives of the Convention. Through the broadly based interests and qualifications of its members, the Assembly could have an innovative function and usefully complement the work of the other institutions.

The Assembly would be a forum for evaluation of the implementation of the Convention; compliance with the undertakings given in the Convention to the 46

ACP States would be 'a major test of the validity of the Community's commitment to its policies of cooperation and assistances to its partners in the Third World'. A climate could then be created in which suspicion gave way to trust and confrontation to cooperation.

There was loud applause.

Mr Philippe Yacé took the Chair and called Mr van den Bulcke, President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Mr van den Bulcke began by saying that he was speaking for his colleagues when he congratulated all those who had contributed to the success of a great work, the Convention of Lomé, the importance of which will undoubtedly add a new dimension to world cooperation in the economic sphere.

The tasks awaiting the members of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly will certainly be enormously difficult, but their efforts should be crowned by success.

Luxembourg has always been in favour of close cooperation between the European Communities and the countries of the Third World. The Convention of Lomé was undoubtedly a new departure in the matter of cooperation between the older continent and the developing countries.

The Grand Duchy was one of the first countries to ratify the Convention of Lomé, the implementation of which has already borne fruit, both in the area of trade cooperation, where all its provisions have been applied in advance, and industrial cooperation as well as in the matter of stabilizing the ACP's export earnings on which agreement was readily reached.

Even if this meeting of the Consultative Assembly takes place at a fateful time for relations between the developing countries and the industrialized countries – the end of the proceedings of the fourth UNCTAD, the suspension of the North – South dialogue, the continuation of the multilateral negotiations within the framework of GATT –, the speaker said that he was still convinced that the Convention of Lomé would function in a perfectly satisfactory manner.

In conclusion, the speaker expressed the hope that the Assembly's proceedings would be fruitful and that its members would enjoy their stay in Luxembourg.

This speech was greeted by loud applause.

Mr Yacé called Miss Colette Flesch, Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on Development and Cooperation.

After thanking Their Royal Highnesses for their interest in the European unification and cooperation between the Third World and the industrialized countries, Miss Flesch welcomed her colleagues in the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly to the city of which she was mayor.

The developments in recent years and more particularly the results of the recent UNCTAD Conference gave cause for concern. Obviously in the present economic crisis it was tempting for governments to restrict their development aid but it was both desirable and possible to increase this aid and the leaders of the richer countries would win public support for this policy provided that the public was properly informed.

It was also essential for wealth to be more fairly distributed between all sections of the population in the countries concerned.

Finally, if the development aid policy was to produce the maximum benefit, its effects on the other areas of Community policy, and vice versa, must be taken into account when working out such a policy.

The objectives should be consistency in political action and human solidarity.

In this connection, Miss Flesch expressed the hope that this constituent meeting would offer the Members of Parliament of the Member States the opportunity to consider, together with the representatives of the developing countries, the possibilities of a cooperation policy beneficial to all concerned. She hoped also that after this meeting observers all over the world would appreciate the 'extra dimension' introduced by the Lomé Convention.

There was loud applause.

Mr Yacé then declared the opening ceremony closed.

### **The Assembly debate on problems being encountered in the implementation of the Lomé Convention**

When the Consultative Assembly resumed later in the afternoon, Mr Tandeng Muna, President of the National Assembly of Cameroon, took the Chair. He



*Mr Tandeng Muna,  
Vice-President of the EEC-ACP  
Consultative Assembly opens the  
meeting.*



*Mr Claude Cheysson, Member of  
the European Commission.*

called Mr Claude Cheysson, Member of the European Community's Commission specially responsible for development and cooperation.

Mr Cheysson reported on behalf of the Commission on the implementation of the Lomé Convention, which he considered to have been satisfactory.

Financial cooperation was well under way and related largely to projects in the rural sector, in accordance with the schemes worked out by the ACP countries themselves.

For the past 11 months practically all ACP exports had been granted free access to the Common Market and trade promotion activities were also in progress.

Referring to Mr King's speech that morning, he said that the Community intended to fulfil its obligations to the Group of 77; the Community's policy was to be regarded as a whole and an adjustment to the relative preference would not jeopardize the advantages conferred under the Convention. An important new factor was the STABEX system which had worked satisfactorily even in the first year of its introduction. Europe was proud to have brought about a fundamental change in relations between industrialized and developing countries by means of this right to compensation, which was very different from traditional forms of aid.

Another new factor introduced by the Convention was the 'revolutionary' protocol on sugar. Commitments had been fulfilled on both sides.

The Community was endeavouring to promote industrialization in the ACP by all the means at its disposal. It was now a question of fulfilling the commitments entered into. This industrial promotion would perhaps present problems in the future because the areas to be dealt with were completely new and a number of commercial operators would be involved, but the interest of the latter was extremely encouraging.

The large number of applicants for the posts of Commission delegates to the ACP governments indicated the considerable interest in this form of representation. The applicants were all people who were extremely enthusiastic about development cooperation.

Their great common enterprise had to be seen in a new international context. The developing countries no longer wanted to be mere purveyors of growth and prosperity but real partners.

However, disappointment and frustration often raised their heads on the occasion of major international discussions, because bringing about a profound change in world order is necessarily a slow process.

The Lomé policy, like the agreements concluded with the three Maghreb countries and about to be concluded with five other countries in the Eastern Mediterranean, had some completely original features, such as:

- (1) the agreements combined all the means of action, financial, technical, commercial and structural;
- (2) the parties benefiting by the agreements decide for themselves on how these resources are to be used;
- (3) the Community offers this integrated form of cooperation to groups of countries, thus stressing its resolve not to involve itself in the internal affairs of its partners;
- (4) enshrined as they are in international treaties, harmonious relations are guaranteed no matter what may befall.

The Consultative Assembly is the guarantor of this new type of relationship, unique in the world, between the peoples of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific and the people of Europe.

The Convention of Lomé must be a convention of progress and dynamic onward movement.

The most striking confirmation of the value of the Lomé policy has been provided recently by the accession of the three Maghreb countries to this form of cooperation, this 'contract between civilizations', as the Prime Minister of Tunisia called it. What satisfaction it must give the Lomé countries to see other countries following in their footsteps'.

The speaker went on to stress that the policy of Lomé can never be a marginal policy. Since it has a bearing on numerous sectors in Europe it will inevitably call for complementarity and the operation of the basic law of economic interdependence with all the consequences arising therefrom. This will have to be thoroughly understood by all the economic forces and by the workers who must make the struggle of the poorer nations their own struggle.

As far as the Consultative Assembly is concerned, it will have an important role to play in voicing the concerns of the peoples associated with the Convention of Lomé and upholding its principles.

It was its grand design that distinguished the Community from its customary industrial allies, concluded Mr Cheysson; they differed in their pasts and in their present needs. Be that as it may, the challenge thrown down by the partners in the Convention of Lomé had been well and truly accepted.

This speech was applauded.

Mr Lothar Krall took the Chair. He called Lord Reay, Vice-President of the Consultative Assembly.

Lord Reay referred in particular to the specific problems of beef and sugar. The principal advantage of the Lomé Convention was that it enabled most ACP countries to export without restriction to the Community. In the case of Botswana the majority of these exports consisted of beef but access to the Community market was restricted. There was a need for continuing derogations in favour of Botswana and the other beef-exporting ACP countries. The quantities of beef concerned were not large in relation to total Community production. The central problem was that the present arrangements were only made for six months at a time. The Commission should take immediate steps to ensure access to Community markets at remunerative prices for reasonable quantities on a longer term basis.

In the case of sugar, there were two problems: the price to be paid for the 1.3 million tons guaranteed under the Protocol, and the question of whether cane sugar producers should be included in the Commission's proposal for a sugar-storage scheme. The difference between the two sides on the matter of price was only 1.5 u.a. per 100 kg. Even if producers were paid the price they were asking, the increase over last year would not be larger than that which would be paid this year to Community producers.

With regard to storage, it was wrong for the Commission to treat cane sugar in the same way as beet sugar. Storage was the standard practice in the case of beet sugar and there were facilities for it, whereas supplies of cane sugar were delivered as and when they were required. The purpose of the storage facility was to provide an insurance of supply. The Convention contained a built-in penalty for non-delivery and the storage arrangements would provide no additional advantage.

At a more general level there was the danger of negotiators being influenced by painful memories of the past. The sugar problem should not be used as an

occasion for trying to retrieve lost prestige. The sugar protocol was important in that it was the first commodity agreement under the Convention. The differences between the two sides were not such as to warrant excessive resistance from the Commission.

There was the further danger of the benefits of the Lomé Convention be eroded by action taken by the Community in favour of other countries. If the Community concluded a succession of agreements with other countries that might undermine the effect of similar agreements reached previously. The Community should not try to extend identical benefits too widely and too soon. It could not resist demands from other developing countries, with GATT, but it was essential to strike a balance and agree on an acceptable pace of change.

The Community and the ACP countries could be confident of reconciling their respective interests and achieving their objectives, provided the discussion of problems was approached in future in the same open spirit as it had been in the past.

Lord Reay's speech was applauded.

Mr Krall declared the meeting closed and the Consultative Assembly adjourned until the following day.

### **Consultative Assembly adopts financial regulation**

When the Assembly resumed Mr Georges Spénale, in the Chair, called Mr A A F Lock, Speaker of the National Assembly of Botswana and Vice-President of the Consultative Assembly. Mr Lock moved the adoption of the Assembly's internal financial regulation. This read as follows:

'The ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly

- having regard to Article 2 of Protocol No 4 annexed to the Lomé Convention on the operating expenditure of the Institutions;
- having regard to the need to lay down the procedures for implementing the provisions of that protocol;
- having regard to Article 23 of its internal regulation;

adopts the following internal financial regulations:

*Mr A A F Lock, Vice-President  
of the EEC-ACP Consultative  
Assembly tables a motion on the  
financial regulation for the  
Assembly.*



## **Internal financial regulation of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly**

### **Art. 1**

The ACP States and the European Parliament shall be severally responsible for such expenditure as they incur by reason of their participation in the activities of the institutions provided for in Art. 80 of the Convention, pursuant to Art. 2 of Protocol No 4.

### **Art. 2**

Each party shall establish internal guidelines laying down procedures for implementing the provisions of Protocol No 4, with particular reference to the charging of expenditure according to place of meeting, its commitment and settlement, and to the provision of the funds required to cover such expenditure.<sup>7</sup>

Mr Lock's speech was applauded and his motion unanimously agreed to. Mr Spénale then declared the meeting closed.

## **The Lomé Convention in practice**

When the Assembly resumed the following morning, Mr Giovanni Bersani, in the Chair, called Mr Satcam Boolell, Minister of Agriculture of Mauritius, to move a



*Mr Satcam Boolell tables a motion on activities relating to the Lomé Convention during the interim and since its entry into force.*

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

Mr Boolell introduced the resolution previously adopted by the Joint Committee after extensive discussion. The final text now before the Assembly was the outcome of that discussion and incorporated a number of amendments. Mr Boolell read out the resolution, inviting delegates to comment if they so wished. He indicated that, in accordance with a suggestion by the Guyanan representative, the consultation referred to in paragraph 11 should be of a prior nature. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the resolution would be adopted unanimously.

Mr Boolell was applauded.

Mr Bersani, in the Chair, called Mr Wijntuin, President of the Parliament of Surinam.

After expressing his thanks for the invitation extended to his country to send an observer to the meeting, Mr Wijntuin said that his country had — peacefully — gained its independence in November 1975 and applied to become a Member State of the Convention of Lomé on 12 March 1976. As Mr Cheysson had confirmed the previous day, the application had been favourably received and Surinam should be represented as a full member at the Assembly's next meeting.

Mr Wijntuin was applauded.

Mr Bersani called Mr Adouki.

Mr Adouki, speaking on behalf of the People's Republic of the Congo, made some comments on certain points in the motion. He stressed the reservations voiced by the People's Republic of the Congo with regard to these points at the meeting of the Joint Committee, reservations which explained why they would be abstaining when the vote was taken.

The following motion was then put to the vote.

'Motion 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: there fore urges the Council to meet as soon as possible;

11. Insists that in all matters affecting the parties to the Convention the fullest possible prior 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.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

### **The Lomé Convention in practice (continued)**

The Consultative Assembly then resumed its debate on how the Lomé Convention is working out in practice.

Mr Bersani called Mr J Razafimbahiny.

Mr Razafimbahiny made a statement on behalf of the Republic of Madagascar. He pointed out that his country's representatives in the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly had taken their seats on a provisional basis. The Republic of Madagascar was at present involved in political reorganization, which should lead to the establishment of a new National Assembly.

The elections for the new Assembly were to be held before June 1977. After this, it would send to the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly full members of Parliament who would participate fully in the work undertaken in the context of the Convention of Lomé.

Mr Razafimbahiny's speech was applauded.

Mr Bersani called Mr Cornelis Laban.

Mr Laban found it surprising that a problem of great topical importance which particularly affected relations between Europe and Africa had not yet been raised: namely, the fact that France had supplied nuclear power stations to South Africa.

The majority of countries and (on 23 February) the Council of Ministers of the EEC had condemned South Africa's apartheid policy. The fact that France had supplied nuclear power stations was tantamount to expressing support for a racist minority regime and providing political ammunition against the EEC. He proposed that, in order to avoid jeopardizing the goodwill between the EEC and the ACP countries and to endorse the validity of their principles the Consultative Assembly should condemn the supply of nuclear power stations to South Africa.

There was considerable applause for Mr Laban from some members of the Consultative Assembly.

Mr Bersani called Mr A B Endeshaw.

Mr Endeshaw, representative of Ethiopia, expressed his delegation's appreciation of the constructive discussions that had taken place in the Consultative Assembly. The present political situation in Ethiopia was such that there was no Parliamentary Assembly. His country's parliamentary delegates to the Conference could not therefore be officially appointed until a later date. He wished a statement to this effect to be recorded in the Summary Report of the Proceedings.

Mr Endeshaw was applauded.

Mr Bersani called Mrs Marie-Thérèse Goutmann.

Mrs Goutmann felt that the Assembly should take a more restrained view of the merits of the Convention. It was not its content that made it such a historic and

revolutionary document, but the fact that the peoples of these countries were struggling for their independence and for their right to dispose freely of their own resources, as well as the fact that the industrialized countries were being severely buffeted by the present structural crisis.

The advantages being conferred on the ACP countries by the Convention should be credited not so much to the goodwill of the capitalist countries as to the new balance of powers and the upsurge of anti-imperialist movements, all of which necessitated a new international economic order. The capitalist countries were only making a virtue of necessity.

The Convention of Lomé had obvious limitations which were inimical to international economic cooperation. STABEX in particular aimed only at stabilizing earnings in monetary terms and not in real terms and took no account of the effects of inflation and of the increase in the prices of imported manufactured products. Furthermore, this system tended to confine the developing countries to the role of suppliers of raw materials, to pin them down to a situation in which they were dependent on a single product and to put a brake on the diversification of their trade.

Relating the implementation of the Convention of Lomé to its international political and economic context, Mrs Goutmann recalled the outcome of the Nairobi Conference as well as France's delivery of nuclear power stations to South Africa.

It was regrettable that in Nairobi certain Community countries had been seen to align themselves with the intransigent positions of the United States. Furthermore, one wondered whether the Community might not be prepared to adopt at Community level, through the establishment of a European Export Bank, the idea floated by Mr Kissinger of setting up an international bank for the multinational redeployment of major capital.

As far as the delivery of nuclear power stations to South Africa was concerned, the speaker condemned the attitude of President Giscard d'Estaing's government which had not hesitated to give its political, economic and military support to a racist country that had been denounced by the United Nations Organization.

Having criticized the attempts made by European countries to break up the united front of the developing countries, the speaker concluded by saying that she looked forward to the establishment of a new international economic order

which would permit cooperation without discrimination and would enable the mutual interests of the developing and the industrialized countries to be taken into account.

Mrs Goutmann was applauded by some members of the Consultative Assembly.

Mr Georges Spénale then took the Chair. He called Mr Kai Nyborg.

Mr Nyborg on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats, described the Convention of Lomé as an exemplary model of cooperation between developed and developing countries and as a step towards a more equitable world economic order. All the partners on both sides must now recognize the need for balanced relations between them. In that sense the Lomé Convention was important since it provided for cooperation on a completely equal footing.

But there were problems: 'Spring is over and some of its flowers are withering'. The time had now come for the promises held out in the Convention to be implemented. Mr Nyborg noted with satisfaction that a start had been made in the areas of financial aid, STABEX and industrial cooperation. But all was not perfect. Earlier in the proceedings, Mr King had rightly referred to the possible erosion of the trade advantages held out by the Lomé Convention: admittedly the Community had wide responsibilities to the Third World but it must tread warily as the EEC was a relatively small grouping which could do no more than its resources allowed.

The Lomé Convention should therefore be the central feature of all the EEC's efforts to assist the developing countries. The disappointment created by the recent UNCTAD session in Nairobi confirmed this need. The Community must demonstrate to the world how cooperation on a basis of complete equality could point the way to a more equitable and humane international order.

Finally, Mr Nyborg expressed his Group's satisfaction with the institutional arrangements under the Convention. The Assembly provided an opportunity for open and frank discussion and could play a constructive part by exerting its influence on the Association Council. Mr Cheysson had described the Lomé Convention as a 'contract of civilization'. We must now live up to the hopes placed in the Convention.

Mr Nyborg was applauded.

Mr Spénale called Mr Ernest Glinne.

Mr Glinne thought he was speaking for the large majority of members when he said that the Convention of Lomé was a step in the right direction. Admittedly, improvements were necessary but there was no doubt that they would gradually be made. However, the speaker deplored the negativist tendencies that might arise from the legitimate frustration caused by the fact that the establishment of a new economic order was a lengthy process.

Mr Glinne then drew attention to two matters which he thought should be tackled in connection with the Convention, namely Namibia and Angola. As regards Namibia, he thought stress should be placed on the desirability of exploratory talks between the United Nations Council for Namibia and the authorities responsible for administering the Convention of Lomé with a view to the possible subsequent accession of Namibia to that Convention. As for Angola, he said that the victims of the long-standing crisis deserved active support from the Member States of the Convention, in cooperation with the United Nations and the Angolan Government.

There was loud applause for Mr Glinne's speech.

Mr Spénale pointed out that the Assembly was not able to adopt a position on these proposals as prior consideration by the Joint Committee was required under the provisions of Article 15 of the Rules of Procedure.

Mr Glinne could, if he so wished, make his opinion on these questions known during the press conference to be held that afternoon; he could then point out that, by their applause, a large majority of the Members of the Assembly had endorsed his observations.

Mr Spénale called Mr Bersani.

Mr Bersani stated that in making a first assessment of the implementation of the Lomé Convention it was necessary to consider the underlying significance of the Convention as a whole and the new prospects it had created for developing countries. Beyond the purely quantitative aspect of the enlargement from the previous membership of 18 countries, there had also been a qualitative breakthrough in the shape of a dynamic new approach to development cooperation.

However, some developing countries were facing grave, indeed tragic, problems and both parties must work together constructively to create more equitable

conditions in these countries. The Convention was perhaps not an appropriate framework for the consideration of basic and controversial political issues: it might be dangerous to embark upon such discussion here. Many of the delegates present had reservations about certain situations and events in Africa, but the Convention aimed at peaceful cooperation between the partners in a spirit of justice and nothing must be done to jeopardize that spirit.

Placed in its historical context, he was convinced that the Association had helped to facilitate unification of the participating peoples, and he was sure that it would continue to do so in its enlarged form. He could think of no single negative aspect, and it had contributed much that was basic to the extension of political autonomy and freedom. The respect of national independence that had always been shown in the Association was a precious political asset. Progress might be slow but it was certain that progress had been rendered possible by the Convention of Lomé. A number of radically new mechanisms and structures had been created. Against the background of the recent UNCTAD meeting in Nairobi, it should not be forgotten that the Lomé Convention had introduced new arrangements in respect of primary commodities – a new departure whose importance was widely recognized.

The basis for understanding between the partners created by this and other provisions must be exploited to the full and developed further. The present approach was too limited: a great deal more remained to be done. This Conference had shown that the necessary goodwill and resolve existed and it could play a central role in encouraging further action. The concern of all the delegates to introduce a greater degree of innovation than ever before, and their keen awareness of the problems had been made abundantly clear; the general need for wider participation by the economic and social forces had been recognized in many quarters.

There were profound reasons for supporting the Convention, not merely as an established structure but as a foundation for more broadly-based and dynamic progress in development cooperation. The achievements were real and the prospects for the future extremely promising.

Mr Bersani's speech was applauded.

Mr Spénale called Mr Kasanga Mulwa.

Mr Mulwa said that he would be able to report to his parliament that he had seen a great deal of goodwill at the Consultative Assembly and that this institution of

the Lomé Convention was proving highly satisfactory. Previously the Commonwealth countries had viewed the Association essentially as a body for the French-speaking African countries, but they now looked forward to taking part in its development. Referring to Mr Laban's observations on the proposed delivery by France of nuclear power stations to South Africa, Mr Mulwa said how gratified he had been to hear his European colleagues raise this matter. It was all the more meaningful when European drew attention to points such as this, reflecting their genuine understanding of Africa.

Mr Mulwa said that the effects of the Lomé Convention fell short of Kenyan aspirations on primary commodities, the transfer of technology and greater efforts to aid the least developed countries. Mr Mulwa favoured the Convention but saw it only as a beginning. In conclusion, he said now impressed he had been by the proceedings of the Consultative Assembly, and hoped that account would duly be taken of the points made by the ACP delegates – particularly as regards the shortcomings of the STABEX scheme which was a step in the right direction but fell short of the needs; the ultimate aim must be an integrated programme for stabilization of the prices for all primary commodities.

Mr Mulwa's speech was applauded.

Mr Spénale called Mr Laban.

Mr Laban referring again to the supply of nuclear power stations to South African, noted that the Rules of Procedure were such that it was impossible to table a resolution on this matter at this stage. However, to ensure that the Consultative Assembly made its opinion quite clear, he proposed to make a statement drawing attention to the general condemnation of the apartheid policy pursued by South Africa and deploring the supply of nuclear power stations to South Africa, which, in effect, was tantamount to declaring support for the regime.

There was considerable applause for Mr Laban's speech from some members of the Consultative Assembly.

Mr Spénale then declared closed the Assembly's debate on how the Lomé Convention is working out in practice. Turning to any other business, Mr Spénale called Mrs Goutmann.

In view of the fact that a delegation from the Transkei was likely to visit the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels in the near future, Mrs

Goutmann felt that there was an urgent need to protest against this implicit recognition of a racially discriminatory regime.

Mrs Goutmann was applauded.

### **End of the Consultative Assembly's first meeting**

Mr Spénale said that he was happy to be able to affirm that this meeting of the Consultative Assembly had not only been a constituent meeting but also an active working meeting.

Article 80 of the Convention had provided it with a legal basis, but nothing more. Barely two months after its entry into force, the Assembly came into being. He thanked all those, and President Yacé in particular, who had helped to achieve such a happy outcome in such a short space of time, notwithstanding the large number of members on the Joint Committee.

At Nairobi, whatever their differences had been, hope had been kept alive. It was an opportune time to express the wish that, by means of the hopes it had aroused, the Convention of Lomé, the spirit of which it was the Assembly's task to safeguard, would set a valuable example for UNCTAD and the North-South dialogue that would eventually see them crowned with success.

In conclusion the speaker stressed the freedom enjoyed by all parties alongside the relations of interdependence by which they were so closely linked. Both sides had much to give and much to receive. It was essential that the model relations that had been established should survive and flourish.

Mr Spénale's statement was greeted with loud applause. He then declared the Constituent Meeting closed.

## **ANNEX**

### **Bureau of the Consultative Assembly**

The Bureau of the Consultative Assembly comprises 6 Members from the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and 6 Members from the European Parliament.

## ACP Members

P Yacé (Ivory Coast)  
S T Muna (Cameroon)  
A A F Lock (Botswana)  
E.T.S. Adriko (Uganda)  
J. O'N Lewis (Trinidad and Tobago)

## European Parliament Members

Georges Spénale  
Giovanni Bersani  
Lothar Krall  
Christian de la Malène  
Lord Reay  
Renato Sandri

## Joint Committee

Mr Kasongo Mukundji (Zaire) and Mr Pierre Deschamps were appointed Co-chairmen of the Joint Committee.



*Mr Pierre Deschamps and Mr Kasongo Mukundji, co-chairmen of the Joint Committee.*

## THE FORTY-SIX ACP

The following is a list of the 46 independent countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific which have entered into the Lomé agreement with the European Community:

- Nineteen states hitherto associated with the Common Market until January 31, 1975 by the Yaoundé Convention: Bénin (Dahomey), Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, Upper Volta and Zaïre.
- Twenty-one Commonwealth States, to which the EEC had offered special agreements on Great Britain's accession to the Common Market:
  - In Africa: Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia.
  - In the Caribbean: Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago
  - In the Pacific: Fiji, Western Samoa, Tonga.
- Six countries of Africa with no special relationship with the countries of the EEC which had been invited to join the above-mentioned because their economies are "comparable": Ethiopia, Liberia, Sudan, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea and Guinea-Bissau.

## THE LOME CONVENTION COUNTRIES

### WEST AFRICA

#### BENIN (Dahomey)

Area: 112 622 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 2 869 000

Capital: Porto-Novo

G.N.P.: \$280 million

Main products: Manioc, yams, maize, palm oil

Principal exports: Palm products (34 per cent), cotton, groundnuts

#### THE GAMBIA

Area: 11 295 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 494 279

Capital: Banjul

G.N.P.: \$50 million

Main products: Groundnuts, bananas, rice

Principal exports: Groundnuts and groundnut products (94 per cent)

## GHANA

Area: 238 537 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 9 600 000  
Capital: Accra  
G.N.P.: \$2 250 million  
Main products: Yams, manioc,  
cocoa, timber, diamonds  
Principal exports: Cocoa (61 per cent),  
timber (19 per cent), diamonds

## GUINEA

Area: 246 00 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 4 070 000  
Capital: Conakry  
G.N.P.: \$380 million  
Main products: Rice, manioc,  
bauxite, alumina, iron ore  
Principal exports: Iron ore (90 per cent),  
alumina

## GUINEA-BISSAU

Area 36 125 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 800 000  
Capital: Madina do Boe  
Main resources: Rice, cola nut,  
palm oil, palm kernels, groundnuts,  
timber, fish  
Potential: Fruit and vegetables,  
bauxite, oil, zircon, phosphates

## IVORY COAST

Area: 322 463 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 5 410 000  
Capital: Abidjan  
G.N.P.: \$ 1 730 million  
Main products: Yams, timber,  
coffee, cocoa  
Principal exports: Timber (29 per cent),  
coffee (23 per cent), cocoa (15 per cent)

## LIBERIA

Area: 111 369 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 1 496 000  
Capital: Monrovia  
G.N.P.: \$330 million  
Main products: Manioc, rice, rubber,  
iron ore  
Principal exports: Iron ore (71 per cent),  
rubber (16 per cent), ind. diamonds

## MALI

Area: 1 240 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 5 257 000  
Capital: Bamako  
G.N.P.: \$370 million  
Main products: Millet, rice,  
groundnuts, livestock, cotton  
Principal exports: Cotton (39 per cent),  
livestock (33 per cent), fish (14 per cent),  
groundnuts (7 per cent)

## MAURITANIA

Area 1 032 455 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 1 200 000  
Capital: Nouakchott  
G.N.P.: \$200 million  
Main products: Millet, salt  
livestock, iron ore  
Principal exports: Iron ore (73 per cent),  
fish, livestock, gum arabic

## NIGER

Area 1 267 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 4 243 000  
Capital: Niamey  
G.N.P.: \$400 million  
Main products: Groundnuts,  
livestock, millet, manioc  
Principal exports: Groundnuts and  
prod.s (24 per cent), livestock (12 per cent),  
groundnut oil (9 per cent)

## **NIGERIA**

Area: 923 768 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 79 778 960  
Capital: Lagos  
G.N.P.: \$7 840 million  
Main products: Yams, sweet potatoes, manioc, oil, cocoa, timber  
Principal exports: (1973) Oil (80 per cent), cocoa (10 per cent), groundnuts

## **SENEGAL**

Area 197 161 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 4 080 000  
Capital: Dakar  
G.N.P.: \$1 020 million  
Main products: Groundnuts, phosphates, livestock, millet, maize  
Principal exports: Groundnuts and prod.s (35 per cent), phosphates

## **SIERRA LEONE**

Area: 72 326 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 2 627 000  
Capital: Freetown  
G.N.P.: \$540 million  
Main products: Rice, palm nuts, iron ore, diamonds  
Principal exports: Diamonds (63 per cent), iron ore (10 per cent), palm nuts

## **CENTRAL AFRICA**

### **BURUNDI**

Area: 27 800 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 3 700 000  
Capital: Bujumbura  
G.N.P.: \$220 million (\*)  
Main products: Maize, sorghum, manioc, coffee  
Principal exports: Coffee (86 per cent), leather and hides (6 per cent), cotton (3 per cent)

## **TOGO**

Area: 56 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 2 092 000  
Capital: Lomé  
G.N.P.: \$300 million  
Main products: Yams, manioc, cocoa, phosphates  
Principal exports: Phosphates (62 per cent), cocoa, (26 per cent), coffee (13 per cent)

## **UPPER VOLTA**

Area: 274 122 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 5 620 000  
Capital: Ouagadougou  
G.N.P.: \$390 million  
Main products: Livestock, cotton, groundnuts, millet  
Principal exports: Livestock (48 per cent), cotton (22 per cent), groundnuts and oil (8 per cent)

### **CAMEROON**

Area: 475 442 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 6 200 000  
Capital: Yaoundé  
G.N.P.: \$1 160 million  
Main products: Cocoa, coffee, timber, bananas  
Principal exports: Coffee (26 per cent), cocoa (23 per cent), timber (12 per cent), alumina

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Area: 622 984 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 1 660 000  
Capital: Bangui  
G.N.P.: \$240 million  
Main products: Rice, manioc, millet, bananas  
Principal exports: Diamonds (40 per cent), coffee (23 per cent), timber (21 per cent), cotton

## CHAD

Area: 1 284 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 3 850 000  
Capital: N'Djaména  
G.N.P.: \$310 million  
Main products: Millet, sorgo, cotton, livestock  
Principal exports: Cotton (69 per cent), meat

## CONGO

Area: 342 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 1 300 120  
Capital: Brazzaville  
G.N.P.: \$300 million  
Main products: Bananas, groundnuts, coffee, rice, timber  
Principal exports: Timber (42 per cent), diamonds (20 per cent)

## EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Area: 73 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 310 000  
Capital: Santa Isabel  
G.N.P.: \$60 million  
Main products: Cocoa, coffee, bananas, palm kernels, timber  
Principal exports: Cocoa (46 per cent)

## GABON

Area: 267 667 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 950 000  
Capital: Libreville  
G.N.P.: \$340 million  
Main products: Manioc, bananas, timber, cocoa, minerals  
Principal exports: Oil (36 per cent), timber (32 per cent), manganese (17 per cent)

## RWANDA

Area: 26 338 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 4 000 000  
Capital: Kigali  
G.N.P.: \$230 million  
Main products: Bananas, sweet potatoes, beans coffee  
Principal exports: Coffee (61 per cent), tin (23 per cent), tungsten (10 per cent), hides (4 per cent)

## ZAIRE

Area: 2 345 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 22 800 000  
Capital: Kinshasa  
G.N.P.: \$1 750 million  
Main products: Copper, zinc, manganese, palm oil, coffee  
Principal exports: Copper (61 per cent), diamonds, coffee

## **EAST AFRICA**

### **BOTSWANA**

Area: 600 372 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 690 000  
Capital: Gaborone  
G.N.P.: \$100 million(\*)  
Main products: Livestock  
(plus carcasses) (80 per cent), hides (9 per cent)

### **ETHIOPIA**

Area: 1 221 900 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 26 100 000  
Capital: Addis-Ababa  
G.N.P.: \$1 990 million  
Main products: Millet, teff, barley,  
wheat, livestock, coffee, maize  
Principal exports: Coffee (38 per cent),  
hides (13 per cent), vegetables (9 per cent)

### **KENYA**

Area: 582 646 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 11 850 000  
Capital: Nairobi  
G.N.P.: \$1 850 million  
Main products: Sugar, wheat, maize,  
coffee, drinks, soap  
Principal exports: Coffee (22 per cent),  
oil products (12 per cent), tea (11 per cent)

### **MADAGASCAR**

Area: 587 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 7 655 134  
Capital: Tananarive  
G.N.P.: \$1 020 million  
Main products: Rice, sugar, coffee,  
groundnuts, spices  
Principal exports: Coffee (29 per cent),  
vanilla (9 per cent), rice (9 per cent),  
sisas (3 per cent)

### **MALAWI**

Area: 118 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 4 950 000  
Capital: Zomba (future: Lilongwe)  
G.N.P.: \$500 million  
Main products: Tea, tobacco, tung  
(oil), cotton, groundnuts  
Principal exports: Tobacco (30 per cent),  
tea (17 per cent), groundnuts (7 per cent)

### **LESOTHO**

Area: 30 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 980 000  
Capital: Maseru  
G.N.P.: \$100 million (\*)  
Main products: Wool, livestock,  
maize, wheat  
Principal exports: Mohair  
wool (32 per cent), livestock (22 per cent),  
diamonds (19 per cent)

### **SOMALIA**

Area: 637 657 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 3 000 000  
Capital: Mogadishu  
G.N.P.: \$210 million  
Main products: Livestock, sugar,  
bananas  
Principal exports: Livestock,  
coprah (45 per cent), bananas (26 per cent)

### **SUDAN**

Area: 2 505 813 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 16 420 000  
Capital: Khartoum  
G.N.P.: \$1 900 million (\*)  
Main products: cotton, groundnuts, sesame,  
hides and skins  
Principal exports: Cotton (56 per cent),  
gum arabic (9 per cent), groundnuts (9 per cent)

## MAURITIUS

Area: 1 843 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 850 000  
Capital: Port-Louis  
G.N.P.: \$230 million  
Main products: Sugar, tea  
Principal exports: Sugar (93 per cent)

## TANZANIA

Area: 940 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 13 980 000  
Capital: Dar-es-Salaam  
G.N.P.: \$1 470 million  
Main products: Sisal, cashew nuts, cotton, coffee, diamonds  
Principal exports: Coffee (19 per cent), cotton (13 per cent), sisal (9 per cent), diamonds

## UGANDA

Area: 236 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 10 330 000  
Capital: Kampala  
G.N.P.: \$1 340 million  
Main products: Manioc, sugar, beer, phosphates, copper, coffee  
Principal exports: Coffee (66 per cent), cotton (15 per cent), copper (10 per cent), tea (5 per cent)

## THE CARIBBEAN

### BAHAMAS

Area: 14 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 190 000  
Capital: Nassau  
G.N.P.: \$430 million  
Main products: (Tourism), sugar products, pharmaceuticals  
Principal exports: Oil products (32 per cent) cement (12 per cent), sugar

## SWAZILAND

Area: 17 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 420 000  
Capital: Mbabane  
G.N.P.: \$80 million  
Main products: Sugar, livestock, timber, asbestos, coal, iron ore,  
Principal exports: Iron ore (26 per cent), sugar (23 per cent), timber (19 per cent), cotton, asbestos

## ZAMBIA

Area: 753 000 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 4 515 000  
Capital: Lusaka  
G.N.P.: 1 620 million  
Main products: Maize, copper, coal, zinc  
Principal exports: Copper (95 per cent)

## BARBADOS

Area: 430 km<sup>2</sup>  
Population: 249 000  
Capital: Bridgetown  
G.N.P.: \$160 million  
Main products: Sugar, transport machinery and equipment, vegetables  
Principal exports: Sugar (45 per cent), oil products (13 per cent), transport equipment

## GRENADA

Area: 300 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 96 000

Capital: St. George

G.N.P.: \$40 million

Main products: Cocoa, bananas, nutmeg

Principal exports: Cocoa (40 per cent), nutmeg (30 per cent), bananas (24 per cent)

## GUYANA

Area: 214 970 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 775 000

Capital: Georgetown

G.N.P.: \$300 million

Main products: Sugar, rice, bauxite, alumina

Principal exports: Bauxite and alumina (48 per cent), sugar (34 per cent), rice

## JAMAICA

Area: 11 400 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 1 890 000

Capital: Kingston

G.N.P.: \$1 370 million

Main products: Sugar, bauxite alumina

Principal exports: Alumina (30 per cent), bauxite (27 per cent), sugar and products (12 per cent), bananas (4 per cent)

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Area: 5 130 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 1 050 000

Capital: Port of Spain

G.N.P.: \$970 million

Main products: Oil and products, sugar, asphalt, cocoa

Principal exports: Oil products (80 per cent), chemical products, sugar

## THE PACIFIC

### FIJI

Area: 18 890 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 554 000

Capital: Suva

G.N.P.: \$250 million

Main products: Copra, sugar, gold

Principal exports: Sugar (70 per cent), copra (13 per cent), coconut oil (5 per cent)

### WESTERN SAMOA

Area: 2 928 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 150 000

Capital: Apia

G.N.P.: \$20 million

Main products: Copra, cocoa

Principal exports: Copra (43 per cent), cocoa (28 per cent)

### TONGA

Area: 699 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 92,000

Capital: Nuku'Alofa

G.N.P.: \$30 million (\*)

Main products: Copra, bananas, dried coconut

Principal exports: Copra (50 per cent), bananas (20 per cent), coconut (14 per cent)

## THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

BELGIUM

DENMARK

FRANCE

GERMANY (Fed. Rep.)

IRELAND

ITALY

LUXEMBOURG

NETHERLANDS

UNITED KINGDOM

Area: 1 528 000 km<sup>2</sup>

Population: 256 625 000

G.N.P. (total for 1973):

U.A. 850 000 million (1)

Commerce (1973):

Imports: U.A. 89 506 300 000

(leading world importer)

Exports: U.A. 89 573 200 000

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(1) 1 Unit of Account was equivalent in value to U.S. \$1 in 1971

(\*) Source: The Courier No. 31. Special Issue March 1975

List of those taking part at the first meeting of the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly(1)

ACP		EP
Bahamas	—	Mr Achenbach (Ge, LA)
	—	Mr Adams (Ge, S)
Barbados	—	Mr Aigner (Ge, CD)
	—	Mr Albertsen (Da, S)
Bénin	—	Mr Ariosto (It, S)
	—	Mr Artzinger (Ge, CD)
		Mr Baas (Du, LA)
Burundi	Rugambarara Gaetan	Mr Behrendt (Ge, S)
	Nzeyimana Laurent	Mr Berkhouwer (Du, LA)
Botswana	*) Lock Albert A.F.	*) Mr Bersani (It, CD)
	Mrs Mathe E.	Mr A Bertrand (Be, CD)
		Mr P Bertrand (Be, Ind)
Cameroon	*) Muna S.T.	Mr Boano (It, CD)
	Ewane Ekwabi Jean	Mrs Boothroyd (Br, S)
		Mr Bordu (Fr, CA)
Central African Republic	Mokodopo Jean Paul	Mr Bourdelles (Fr, LA)
	Kombot Naguemon	Mr Bregégère (Fr, S)
Chad	Laotegguenodji Koumtog	Mr Broeksz (Du, S)
		Mr Brugger (It, CD)
Ethiopia	Endeshaw Ato Bekele	Lord Castle (Br, S)
	—	Mr Colin (Fr, CD)
Fiji	—	Mr Corona (It, S)
	—	Mr Couste (Fr, EPD)
		Mr Dalyell (Br, S)
Gabon	Sambhat Albert-Martin	Mr D'Angelosante (It, CA)
	N'Goulakia	Mr Della Briotta (It, S)
Gambia	Cham Alhaji H.C.	Mr Deschamps (Be, CD)
	Sabally Alhaji H.C.	Mr Didier (Fr, S)
		Mr Dondelinger (Lu, S)
Ghana	Bentsi-Enchill Ebo	Mrs Dunwoody (Br, S)
	Dou Du Cameron	Mr Durieux (Fr, LA)

(1) Those preceded by \*) are also vice-presidents of the Assembly

**ACP**

Grenada	— —
Guinea Bissau	— —
Guinea	Mormory Camara —
Equatorial Guinea	— —
Guyana	Dyett Harry —
Jamaica	Francis Frank —
Kenya	Mulwa J. Kasanga —
Lesotho	Matete Majara Matsepe T.
Liberia	Mitchell Lawrence E. Jones Momo F.
Madagascar	Razafimbahiny Jules Rasamoelina Raymond
Malawi	— —
Mali	Diallo Samballa
Mauritius	Boolell Satcam Ramlugon Krishna
Mauritania	Aziz Sall Abdoul Fall Babaha Mohamed
Niger	Mai-Mai Gana Zada Daouda

**EP**

Mr Espersen (Da, S)
Mr Fellermaier (Ge, S)
Mr Flämig (Ge, S)
Miss Flesch (Lu, LA)
Mr Frehsee (Ge, S)
Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (Br, S)
Mr Galli (It, CD)
Mr Girardin (It, CD)
Mr Glinne (Be, S)
Mrs Goutmann (Fr, CA)
Mr Guerlin (Fr, S)
Mr Hartog (Du, CA)
Mr Härzschel (Ge, CD)
Mr Van der Hek (Du, S)
Mr Herbert (Ir, EDP)
Mr Hougardy (Be, LA)
Mrs Iotti (It, CA)
Mr Jakobsen (Da, EC)
Mr Jozeau-Marigné (Fr, LA)
Mr Kaspereit (Fr, EDP)
Mr Kavanagh (Ir, S)
Mrs Kellett-Bowman (Br, EC)
*) Mr Krall (Ge, LA)
Mr Laban (Du, S)
Mr Lagorce (Fr, S)
Mr Laudrin (Fr, EDP)
Mr Lautenschlager (Ge, S)
Mr Ligios (It, CD)
Mr Lücker (Ge, CD)
Mr McDonald (Ir, CD)
Mr Maigaard (Da, EC)
*) Mr de la Malène (Fr, EDP)
Mr Memmel (Ge, CD)
Mr Mursch (Ge, CD)
Mr B Nielsen (Da, LA)
Mr K Nielsen (Da, S)

(1) Those preceded by \*) are also vice-presidents of the Assembly

**ACP**

Nigeria	Abubakar Alhaji Ijewere G.O.
Republic of the Ivory Coast	Yacé Philippe (Chairman) Ebagnitchie Eduard
Republic of the Congo	Mouissou Pouati Mounthault Hilaire
Republic of the Upper Volta	— Ilboudo Pierre
Rwanda	Ndahimana Emmanuel —
Senegal	Dia Amdadou Cissé Gueye Amadou Bouta
Sierra Leone	Kanu S.G. Kargbo Edward
Somalia	Matan Hashi Ali Omar Giama Mohamed
Sudan	— —
Swaziland	Nxumalo S.S. Zwane T.M.J.
Tanzania	— —
Togo	Lambony Bombona Kouma Komlan
Tonga	— —
Trinidad and Tobago	*) Lewis J. O'Neill St. John Maurice

**EP**

Mr Nolan (Ir, EDP)
Mr Normanton (Br, EC)
Mr Notenboom (Du, CD)
Mr Nyborg (Da, EDP)
Mr Pianta (Fr, LA)
Mr Pisoni (It, CD)
Mr Premoli (It, LA)
*) Lord Reay (Br, EC)
Mr Romauldi (It, Ind)
Lord St. Oswald (Br, EC)
*) Mr Sandri (It, CA)
Mr Santer (Lu, CD)
Mr Schuijt (Du, CD)
Mr Schwörer (Ge, CD)
Mr Scott-Hopkins (Br, EC)
Mr Seefeld (Ge, S)
Mr Shaw (Br, EC)
Mr Spénale (President) (Fr, S)
Mr Spicer (Br, EC)
Mr Terrenoire (Fr, EDP)
Mr Vandewiele (Be, CD)
Mr Vetrone (It, CD)
Mr Walkhoff (Ge, S)
Lord Walston (Br, S)
Mrs Walz (Ge, CD)

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(1) Those preceded by \*) are also vice-presidents of the Assembly

**ACP**

Uganda	*) Adriko E.T.S. Kihuguru G.B.
Western	—
Samoa	—
Zaire	Bo-Boliko Lokonca Monse Mihomo Kasongo Mukundji L.A.
Zambia	Sikota Aggrey Mulala

**Observers**

Cape Verde Islands	Brito José
Comoro Islands	Mouzaoir Abdallah Abdou'Rahim Mikidache
Sao Tomé and Principe	Nuno Xavier
Surinam	Wijntuin E.L.A. Lachmon J.

**Members of the Joint Committee**

Mrs E Mathe (Botswana)  
Ewane Ekwabi Jean (Cameroon)  
Mounthault Hilaire (Congo)  
Ebagnitchie Eduard (Ivory Coast)  
Cham Alhaji H C (Gambia)  
Dyett Harry (Guyana)  
Francis Frank (Jamaica)  
Mulwa J Kasanga (Kenya)  
Matete Majara (Lesotho)  
Diallo Samballa (Mali)  
Boolell Satcam (Mauritius)  
Fall Babaha Mohamed (Mauritania)  
Mai-Mai Gana (Niger)  
Guillabert (Sénégal)  
Matan Hashi Ali (Somalia)  
Djel (Chad)  
Lambony Bombona (Togo)  
Lewis J O'Neil (Trinidad and Tobago)  
Kihuguru G B (Uganda)  
Kasongo Mukundji L A (Zaire)  
Sikota Aggrey Mulala (Zambia)

(and representatives from)

Bahamas  
Barbados  
Bénin  
Burundi  
Central Africa  
Ethiopia  
Fiji  
Gabon  
Ghana  
Grenada  
Guinea Bissau  
Guinea  
Equitorial Guinea  
Republic of the Upper Volta  
Liberia  
Madagascar  
Malawi  
Nigeria  
Rwanda  
Sierra Leone  
Sudan  
Swaziland  
Tanzania  
Tonga  
Western Samoa

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(1) Those preceded by \*) are also vice-presidents of the Assembly

## European Parliament representatives

Heinrich Aigner  
Jan Baas  
Giovanni Bersani  
Pierre Bertrand  
Miss Betty Boothroyd  
Jan Broeksz  
Achille Corona  
Pierre Deschamps  
Willy Dondelinger  
Jean Durieux  
Ole Espersen  
Ludwig Fellermaier  
Gerhard Flämig  
Miss Colette Flesch  
Sir Geoffrey de Freitas  
Luigi Galli  
Luigi Girardin  
Ernest Glinne  
Mrs Marie-Thérèse Goutmann  
Kurt Härzschel  
Mrs Leonilde Iotti  
Erhard Jakobsen  
Léon Jozeau-Marigné

Gabriel Kaspereit  
Lothar Krall  
Cornelis Laban  
Pierre Lagorce  
Hervé Laudrin  
Giosuè Ligios  
Christian de la Malène  
Heinz Mursch  
Brondlund Nielsen  
Knud Nielsen  
Thomas Nolan  
Lord Reay  
Lord St. Oswald  
Renato Sandri  
Willen Schuijt  
James Scott-Hopkins  
Horst Seefeld  
Marcel Vandewiele  
Mario Vetrone  
Karl-Heinz Walkhoff  
Lord Walston  
Mrs Hanna Walz

 Lomé Convention (ACP)

