

**ACP-EEC CONVENTION OF LOMÉ**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
ACP-EEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
(1993)**



CONVENTION ACP-CEE DE LOME

LE CONSEIL

LES SECRETAIRES

ACP-EEC CONVENTION OF LOMÉ

THE COUNCIL

THE SECRETARIES

Brussels, 22 SEP. 1994

Lord Henry PLUMB  
S.E. Marcel Eloi CHAMBRIER-RAHANDI

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Co-Chairmen of the ACP-EEC  
Joint Assembly,

European Parliament,  
LUXEMBOURG


Sirs,

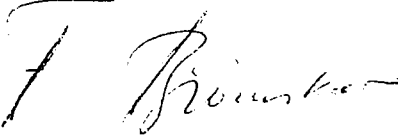
At its meetings in Mbabane, on 18-19 May 1994, the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers examined the Annual Report which it has to publish pursuant to Article 342 paragraph 4 of the Fourth ACP-EEC Convention and instructed the Committee of Ambassadors, in conjunction with the Secretaries of the Council of Ministers, to finalize this report and to forward it to the Joint Assembly.

As this report has now been finally approved, we are pleased to communicate the text thereof to the Joint Assembly in order that it may be examined by that body in accordance with Article 350 of the Fourth ACP-EEC Convention.

The necessary copies of this text will be made available to your services as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

  
Ghebray BERHANE

  
Flemming BJØRNEKÆR

Enc: 1



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## I. INTRODUCTION

1993 was marked by the energetic pursuit of the objectives of cooperation as defined by the Fourth Convention, which entered into force on 1 September 1991.

The joint bodies of the Convention took stock of the progress made and the problems encountered in the various areas of cooperation.

Among the matters which most attracted the attention of the joint bodies were: the completion of the Uruguay Round, the implementation of Community arrangements for bananas in the context of the completion of the single market, the negotiations on the new Agreements for coffee and cocoa, the implementation of the provisions of the Convention with regard to development finance cooperation.

The two sides also followed closely developments in the situation in southern Africa, with South Africa being the subject of one of the first applications of the Treaty on European Union, which entered into force on 1 November 1993.

On 24 May 1993, Eritrea became the 70th ACP member of the Convention.



## II. OVERVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE ACP-EEC INSTITUTIONS

### 1. ACP-EEC Council of Ministers

- (a) The Council of Ministers held its 18th ordinary meeting on 17 and 18 May 1993 in Brussels, with Mr KIGOMA ALI MALIMA, M.P., Finance Minister of Tanzania, in the Chair. The Community spokeswoman was Ms Helle DEGN, Minister for Development Cooperation, Denmark. The Commission of the European Communities was represented by Mr Manuel MARIN, Vice-President.
- (i) The first part of the Council's discussions was devoted to taking stock of the implementation of ACP-EEC cooperation and to examining the major dossiers which were particularly topical, such as trade issues (prospects for the conclusion of the Uruguay Round, establishment of a common organization of the market in bananas, etc.), Stabex transfers for the 1992 year of application, questions concerning the application of the Sugar Protocol, emergency situations and other disasters in certain ACP States (Somalia, Liberia and Haiti) and the situation in South Africa and southern Africa.

With regard to commodities, the Council adopted a declaration on the negotiations for new international Agreements on coffee and cocoa. That declaration was drawn up in the ACP-EEC Commodities Committee, which met at ministerial level on the occasion of the Council meeting, and stresses the disastrous effects that the fall in the prices of these commodities has had, in the absence of international agreements, on the economies of the ACP producer countries, despite the support measures applied in the context of the Lomé IV structural adjustment facility and under Stabex. It calls upon both consumer and producer countries to show flexibility in their negotiations.

With regard to financial and technical cooperation, the Council agreed on the outcome of the proceedings of the ACP-EEC Development Finance Committee, which met at ministerial level on the occasion of the Council meeting. In this context, it adopted two Resolutions, one on the implementation of technical and financial cooperation, the other on the "post-Fiji" study, launched by the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers in May 1990, on the application of financial and technical cooperation procedures. The latter Resolution defines the guidelines to be taken into account and sets out certain recommendations designed to improve efficiency and speed up the implementation of cooperation.

The Council was also informed of the main results of the meetings of the Joint Assembly in Luxembourg (September 1992) and Gaborone (March 1993).

- (ii) During the second part of its proceedings, the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers held informal exchanges of views on a number of subjects of common interest. Under the general heading of the future of ACP-EEC relations, the following topics were addressed: commodities, debt, structural adjustment, the private sector and investment, increasing the efficiency of cooperation, "good government" in conjunction with human rights, democratization, the rule of law and decentralized cooperation.

During these informal exchanges of views, in which a number of Ministers took an active part, several speakers laid particular emphasis on the improvements likely to be introduced into the Convention on the occasion of the renewal of the five-year Financial Protocol and the mid-term review of the Convention, on which work would start in May 1994.

At the close of the exchange of views, both sides acknowledged the value of this type of discussion between Ministers and recommended continuing this type of debate in future.

(b) By a Decision of 22 October 1993 <sup>(1)</sup>, the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers agreed that the Convention should continue to apply to Eritrea from the date of its independence, namely 24 May 1993. From that date, Eritrea thus became the 70th ACP member of the ACP-EEC Convention.

## 2. ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors

The ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors held a first meeting on 26 April 1993 to prepare for the deliberations of the above meeting of the Council of Ministers. It took note of the outcome of the discussions of the Subcommittee on trade Cooperation, the Subcommittee on Stabex, the Subcommittee on Sugar, the Commodities Committee (Ambassadors) and the ACP-EEC Development Finance Cooperation Committee (at authorized representative level).

A second meeting of the Committee, devoted mainly to Stabex questions, held on 16 July 1993, was unable to arrive at a common position on the transfers to be made for the 1992 year of application, given that the system's resources were once again insufficient to meet all the transfer rights of the ACP States.

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<sup>(1)</sup> See OJ No L 280, 13.11.1993.

### 3. ACP-EEC Joint Assembly

The ACP-EEC Joint Assembly held its 16th meeting from 19 March to 2 April 1993 in Gaborone (Botswana) and its 17th meeting from 4 to 8 October 1993 in Brussels in the presence of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. The Assembly adopted numerous Resolutions <sup>(1)</sup> covering all the areas of ACP-EEC cooperation or designed to deal with the particular situation obtaining in certain countries. The Gaborone meeting was dominated by the issue of the relationship between human rights, development and the democratization process in the ACP States. The main topics of the Brussels meeting were preparation for the mid-term review of Lomé IV and the prospects opened up by the progress made in South Africa towards democracy and a multi-racial society. The Joint Assembly heard a speech by Mr MANDELA, President of the ANC.

The Resolutions adopted by the Joint Assembly at these two meetings were forwarded to the Council of Ministers.

### 4. Consultation of the economic and social interest groups

Under the aegis of the ACP-EEC Joint Assembly, the 17th annual meeting of the ACP-EEC economic and social interest groups was held from 6 to 8 December 1993 on the subject of job creation in the context of decentralized cooperation and the role of the economic and social interest groups.

At the close of the discussions, a final declaration was adopted (see Annex I).

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<sup>(1)</sup> See OJ No C 234, 30.8.1993 and OJ No C 14, 17.1.1994.





III. ACTIVITIES OF THE ACP-EEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IN THE VARIOUS AREAS OF ACP-EEC COOPERATION

1. Trade and customs cooperation

(a) Uruguay Round

The Uruguay Round negotiations begun in September 1986 were completed on 15 December 1993, with the signing of the corresponding Agreements, including that establishing a World Trade Organization, scheduled for April 1994.

Throughout the negotiations, the Community and the ACP States informed and consulted each other about the progress of the work. As the negotiations were still under way at the time of the Council of Ministers meeting in May 1993, the Committee of Ambassadors' brief to submit a report to it on the matter was extended by a year. At that meeting, the Council also noted that the Commission had forwarded to the ACP States the result of its analysis of the effects which the Community's GATT offer on tropical products should have on the ACP States' trade.

With regard to the concrete results of the Uruguay Round, a detailed examination of the various Agreements will be undertaken in order to identify the precise impact they will have on the world economy in general and on that of the ACP States in particular. Since the ACP States stressed, in this context, their concerns about the danger of their preferences under the Convention being eroded, the Community, in accordance with the provisions of Annex XXIX to the Convention, reiterated the need to ensure in the overall application of the Convention, the maintenance of the competitive position of the ACP States, where their advantages on the Community market were affected by measures relating to general trade liberalization. It repeated its undertaking, given in that Annex, to study jointly with the ACP States specific appropriate action with a view to safeguarding the interests of the latter, whenever those States brought any specific case to its attention.

(b) Trade development project (Annex XX to the Convention)

Following the submission in 1993 of the report by the consultant responsible for a study on the implementation of the first phase of the above project, the ACP States and the Commission began examining the matter with a view to submitting a financing proposal to the EDF Committee.

(c) Bananas

Following the overall compromise achieved in the EEC Council in December 1992 in the area of agriculture, the Council adopted, in February 1993, a Regulation on the common organization of the market (COM) in bananas (Regulation No 404/93). The ACP States were consulted on this regulation, which entered into force on 1 July 1993 and which, for trade with third countries, sets an annual tariff quota of 2 million tonnes for imports of third-country bananas (duty of ECU 100/t) and of non-traditional ACP bananas (zero duty), while imports from traditional ACP suppliers are set at 857 700 tonnes (zero duty). Where the tariff quota is exceeded, higher duties apply (ECU 850/t for third-country bananas and ECU 750/t for non-traditional ACP bananas). One of the objectives of the Regulation is to fulfil the undertaking given by the Community in the Banana Protocol annexed to the Convention, namely to ensure the maintenance of the advantages enjoyed by the traditional ACP suppliers on the Community market.

At the same time, the EEC Council continued examining an additional Commission proposal for a Regulation establishing a special system of assistance to traditional ACP suppliers of bananas (ACP banana Regulation) <sup>(1)</sup>. The Commission considers that the introduction of that COM and the adjustment of its mechanisms might jeopardize the continuing viability of ACP production. The ACP banana Regulation should therefore enable the Community to assist traditional ACP suppliers during a transitional period to adjust to the new requirements of the banana market and to cope with any temporary disturbances on the market.

When consulted on this proposal, the ACP States agreed to it, subject to certain proposed amendments, while at the same time urging its swift adoption, bearing in mind the disturbances on the market and the fall in prices which the COM had brought.

On the same occasion, the ACP States proposed that the Community should make provision for the possibility of transfers of export quotas from one State to another ("transferability") and for an increase in the "traditional quantities" of ACP bananas under the COM.

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(1) In February 1993, the Commission also submitted to the Council of the European Communities a proposal for a Regulation introducing a diversification and development programme for certain banana-producing countries of Latin America.

Finally, both formal and informal consultations took place between the ACP States and the competent Community bodies on developments in the various dossiers concerning bananas in the context of the GATT (Uruguay Round, panels on the arrangements applied by the Member States prior to the introduction of the COM for bananas and the import arrangements it established).

(d) Rum

Pursuant to Protocol No 6, annexed to the Convention, the Council (EEC) adopted in a Regulation in June 1993 opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, tafia and arrack originating in the ACP States for the 1993/1994 marketing year, of 224 827 hl of pure alcohol, duty-free; in 1991/1992 the quota was 197 771 hl and in 1992/1993 it was 214 268 hl.

(e) Competitiveness of ACP products

Following the discussions of the ad hoc Working Party responsible for examining, pursuant to Annex XXX of the Convention, the impact of the arrangements established by the Community in favour of certain countries of Central and Latin America, the ACP States and the Commission drew up terms of reference for three joint studies "to determine the factors impairing the competitiveness of the ACP products considered and to propose ways of improving that competitiveness..." (see 1992 annual report, page 16). The studies for which consultants have already been selected concern horticultural products, fisheries and preserved fish, and tobacco.



## 2. Stabilization of export earnings

- (a) On 7 July 1993 the Commission forwarded to the Council of Ministers, in accordance with the provisions of Article 194(4) of the Convention, its report on the operation of the system of stabilization of export earnings for the 1992 year of application. According to the report, the pressures to which the Stabex system were subject in 1992 had once again been severe, but slightly less pronounced than for the previous application year; they were due mainly to the situation on the coffee and cocoa markets. Thus the system's resources of ECU 330 million once again proved inadequate to cover the total eligible transfer bases, which was of the order of ECU 764 million (rate of coverage of around 43%).

The Council (EEC) examined the situation on 19 July 1993. However, it was unable to reach agreement on increasing the resources of the Stabex system for 1992 by granting an additional amount, to be financed either from the unexpended balance of the Lomé II and Lomé III Sysmin, or by drawing in advance on Stabex funds for 1994, as proposed during the discussion.

At its meeting on 23 July 1993, the ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors, acting by virtue of powers delegated to it by the Council of Ministers, took note of the Community proposal to retain the amount of ECU 330 million for transfers for the 1992 year of application. The ACP States were not prepared to accept the proposal. In view of this, the two sides agreed to remain in contact and to see at what point and in what way it would be advisable to resume examination of the issue.

- (b) In preparation for the examination by the Council of Ministers of the position of ACP States enjoying the benefits of the "all destinations" derogation until 1992 under the terms of Annex XLVII of the Convention, the Commission forwarded a communication to the Council in October 1993 in which it proposed that the derogation should no longer apply from 1993, when the ACP States concerned would be subject to the provisions of Article 189(3) of the Convention. At its meeting on 17 and 18 May 1993, the Council of Ministers had delegated its powers on the matter to the Committee of Ambassadors.
- (c) In the context of the brief given by the Council of Ministers in May 1992 to the Committee of Ambassadors concerning the position of the least developed, landlocked and island countries (LDLICs) in the Stabex system which was, in the view of the ACP States, less favourable than under the third Convention, the Community considered that, taking into account the impact of all the amendments introduced into the Fourth Convention in favour of those countries, the situation of those States was more favourable overall than under the Third Convention. Insofar, however, as the ACP States wished to institutionalize specific preferential treatment for the LDLICs in the future, the corresponding adjustments to the text of the Convention could be made in conjunction with the mid-term review.
- (d) In December 1993, the Commission submitted to the ACP States and the Member States a provisional version of the report drawn up by a consultant concerning the causes of the inadequacy of resources in the Stabex system and possible remedies.



### 3. Sugar

- (a) The ACP States drew the Community's attention on several occasions to the precarious situation faced by the sugar-exporting countries among them, characterized by a combination of factors damaging to the position conferred on them by the Convention. These factors included the impact of changes in the agri-monetary area, the undertakings to be given by the Community in the context of the Uruguay Round, transport costs for ACP sugar, the increase in the prices of materials used in the sugar industry and the Commission's delay in defining its position on the ACP request for improved access to the Community market. Given that the Community appeared to have no plans to introduce measures to offset the damage caused, the ACP States felt that the time had come to consider ways and means of reducing the burdens on their sugar industries, in the same way as provisions had been adopted for Community producers. The ACP States pointed out in this connection that the Sugar Protocol itself established the principle of the linkage of ACP producers to the Community's own arrangements for sugar.
- (b) The ACP States specified that should the Community's current sugar arrangements, which now included legislation on the access of ACP sugar to Portugal, be extended again, the Commission should examine the possibility of a transitional arrangement enabling them to supply quantities to make good the shortfall in the Community at preferential prices.

The Community, for its part, confirmed that it was not in a position to take isolated long-term measures for ACP sugar alone; such measures would have to be integrated into an overall solution which took into account firstly, the reform of the common agricultural policy and the outcome of the Uruguay Round and secondly, the provisions of Annex XXVIII of the Convention.

- (c) Regarding developments in the Uruguay Round, the ACP States voiced their concern that the concessions likely to result from those negotiations might have adverse effects on the guaranteed prices of ACP sugar. In order to circumscribe those effects as far as possible, they asked the Community to reconsider its offer of a tariff reduction, limiting it to 15% instead of the planned 20%. However, since even a reduction limited to 15% might have a harmful effect on supplies from ACP States, they suggested making provision for strengthening the safeguard measures and appropriate reference levels, in order to preserve both their current share of the Community market and the possibility of gaining improved access to that market. Such measures were all the more necessary in view of the proposals made within the GATT, designed to give MFN treatment to additional imports. It was agreed that those proposals would be raised during talks between Community and ACP negotiators taking part in the Uruguay Round.
- (d) Talks continued between the Commission and the Zambian authorities with a view to completing the examination of Zambia's request to accede to the Sugar Protocol, concentrating on Zambia's efforts to upgrade and restructure its sugar industry and on the progress made in the privatization process.

However, the Commission felt that Zambia's sugar production would not enable it, at this stage, to provide the regular supplies required by the Sugar Protocol, and was therefore unable to support the accession.

- (e) It will be remembered that in 1992 the Commission had said that it was prepared to finance a study on transport costs for ACP sugar, for which the terms of reference had been agreed jointly by the ACP States and the Commission. That study, drawn up by an independent consultant, was the subject of an initial examination at a round table discussion on 19 November 1993, involving representatives of the ACP States and the Commission, as well as the author of the study.
- (f) In February 1993, the Council of the European Communities approved an Agreement concluded between the Community and the ACP States on guaranteed prices for ACP sugar for the 1992/1993 delivery period. Prices were set at ECU 43,94/100 Kg for raw sugar and at ECU 54,22/100 Kg for white sugar.

Regarding the guaranteed prices for the 1993/1994 delivery period, negotiations between the Community and the ACP sugar-exporting States commenced in April 1993 and resumed in July 1993, following the establishment of the Community's agricultural prices for the 1993/1994 marketing year. As the Community's offer on prices was pitched at the same level as for the previous marketing year and, indeed, at the same level as for Community producers, the ACP States, referring to the arguments set out in point (a) above, said they were unable to accept it, and at the same time asked the Community to make provision, in the same way as for the legislation adopted for the 1989 to 1992 marketing years, for marketing premiums to offset the difficulties facing their sugar industries. The negotiations were adjourned until a later date.



#### **4. Cooperation on commodities**

The two sides continued their consultations both within the Commodities Committee (at ambassadorial and ministerial level) and on the spot, in Geneva and London respectively, throughout the negotiations on the new international Agreements on cocoa and coffee.

At its meeting on 17 and 18 May 1993, the Council of Ministers, on a proposal from the co-Chairmen of the Commodities Committee, adopted the following statement:

"The ACP-EEC Council of Ministers meeting in Brussels on 17 May 1993, recalled the importance of the coffee and cocoa sectors to a considerable number of ACP countries. It noted with concern the disastrous effects that the depressed prices of these commodities have been having on the economies of the producing countries in the absence of international agreements. Despite the considerable effort, such as reducing nominal farm prices, reorganizing and rationalizing production, marketing and distribution networks, made by ACP governments to adjust to the new situation, there has been serious and adverse social and economic dislocation in these countries. Moreover, supportive measures under the Lomé IV structural adjustment facility as well as under Stabex were not sufficient to redress these negative effects.

The Council further noted that this situation had been aggravated by the failure of producers and consumers to conclude negotiations for agreements with economic clauses for these two commodities. It appeals to those consumer as well as producer countries which seem to be experiencing difficulties, to exercise the necessary flexibility.

The Council regretted that it had proved impossible to negotiate a new International Coffee Agreement to date, and hoped that a way might be found to reopen the negotiating process when more favourable circumstances existed. To this end, the Council calls on all producer and consumer countries to exercise flexibility in this process. As far as the negotiations for a new International Cocoa Agreement were concerned, the Council hoped that the demonstrated political goodwill would be translated into an effective and economically viable agreement.

The Council agreed to continue dialogue on these matters in Brussels, London and Geneva with a view to safeguarding the interests of the parties concerned."

More particularly with regard to cocoa, the multilateral negotiations in Geneva finally resulted in a new Agreement <sup>(1)</sup> which will replace the 1986 Agreement and which will mainly concern the discipline to be observed by the producer countries.

The Community and its Member States, like the ACP States, stated their intention of signing that Agreement and applying it, provisionally, at the earliest opportunity.

How, negotiations on the new international Agreement on coffee did not result in an Agreement with economic clauses. The negotiations were suspended, and the 1983 Agreement was once more extended, until 30 September 1994, in order to accommodate the possibility of finalizing a new Agreement by that date.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 52, 23.2.1994, p. 26.

## 5. Development Finance Cooperation

### (a) Implementation in 1993 <sup>(1)</sup>

At the end of 1993, 57% of the aid from the resources of the European Development Fund had been committed (the rate was 69.3% for decisions) and 49.2% of that aid had been disbursed. 1993 was characterized by a constant increase in the number of decisions and a levelling-off of the number of payments as compared with the previous financial year. These results represent a high level of EDF activity and confirm the upward trend observed since 1989.

In particular there was a large increase in aid granted under the structural adjustment facility. However, projects and programmes of the traditional kind continue to constitute the majority of EDF operations. Large payments were again made in the form of emergency aid and aid to refugees, returnees and displaced persons.

However, it proved impossible to execute the payments made under the Stabex for the 1992 year of application during the year under examination, in the absence of agreement on the amount of transfers to be made. This largely explains the levelling-off in the number of payments in 1993. The resources administered by the EIB fell slightly in 1993.

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(1) Tables of commitments and payments under the 5th, 6th and 7th EDFs to the end of 1992 are available from the Secretariat of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers.

In spite of these broadly encouraging results, certain constraints, already noted in previous financial years, continued to weigh heavily on the implementation of Community aid, and in particular on the preparation and execution of the indicative programmes. Those constraints and difficulties are attributable to delays in establishing national and regional indicative programmes, problems associated with the implementation of procedures, the project cycle itself, the worrying economic and social situation obtaining in the ACP States and the resulting political consequences.

The purpose of the joint study undertaken following the Council of Ministers meeting in Fiji in 1990 was precisely to identify and eliminate these procedural constraints in order to increase the efficiency and swiftness of Community aid.

The study was completed in 1993 and the results were adopted by the Council of Ministers at its meeting in May 1993 (see point (b)(i) below).



(b) Joint Development Finance Cooperation Committee (DFC Committee)

The DFC Committee, established under Article 325 of the Fourth Convention, met at authorized representative level in Brussels on 26 April 1993.

It held its second meeting at ministerial level on 17 May 1993 and reported to the Council of Ministers which, after noting the work carried out by the Committee, adopted:

- five reports concerning: implementation in 1991; the joint study on the implementation procedures; structural adjustment; regional cooperation and integration; 1991/1992 joint evaluation; least developed, landlocked and island countries;
- two Resolutions, one on the implementation of financial and technical cooperation in 1991, the other on the joint study on the implementation procedures;
- "basic principles" applicable to small and medium-sized undertakings.

(i) Joint study on financial cooperation implementation procedures

In accordance with the terms of reference adopted by the Council of Ministers in May 1991, this study was carried out in four phases. It will be remembered that the first two phases (inventory of operations and identification of bottlenecks and estimation of realistic timeframes for the operations) were the subject of an interim report approved by the Council of Ministers in May 1992. Since then, a consultancy firm (Price Waterhouse) has been working on the third phase (research into and analysis of the causes of delay). The purpose of the last phase, completed in 1993, was to list certain conclusions and recommendations for the future, covering all phases of implementation.

The Resolution, which was submitted to the Council of Ministers, is based on the conclusions contained in the joint report and sets out specific recommendations concerning the programming phase, the identification and the preparation of projects, the appraisal of projects and the preparation of financing proposals, reducing processing delays for financing agreements and eliminating certain bottlenecks in the implementation of projects and programmes.

The Resolution calls upon the Council of Ministers to instruct the DFC Committee, the Commission, the ACP Secretariat and the ACP States to take the necessary steps to implement these conclusions and recommendations, in order to speed up and achieve greater efficiency in the implementation of the projects and programmes financed by the EDF.

(ii) Structural adjustment

The joint report is essentially factual. It contains a broad assessment of the utilization of the resources for structural adjustment support since the entry into force of Lomé IV and the adoption of an important joint Resolution on the matter by the Council of Ministers in Kingston in May 1992.

It refers to the main objectives of the common approach concerning the utilization of the Convention's resources to support adjustment, including the particular emphasis to be given to the social dimension of adjustment and the utilization of counterpart funds for that purpose.

(iii) Regional cooperation and integration

The joint report, the first to be drawn up on the matter since the entry into force of Lomé IV, stresses the progress achieved in these areas, in particular by taking into account in the regional programmes innovations introduced in Lomé IV with regard to objectives, procedures and methods.

The report stresses in particular the importance of the political will of the States taking part if the objectives set are to be realized.

(iv) 1991/1992 evaluation report

This report is the first to be drawn up jointly on the basis of Article 327 of Lomé IV and the joint operational procedures adopted by the Council of Ministers in May 1991. It sets out the progress achieved regarding evaluation in 1991/1992. It contains a work programme for 1993/1994 and "basic principles" on SME projects.

These "basic principles" are aimed in particular at small and medium-sized undertakings for which access to financing sources in the Convention would normally prove difficult. They are intended more particularly to guide the allocation of resources to activities which serve to enhance their development (e.g. training, technological extension services and technical assistance).

(v) Least developed, landlocked and island ACP countries (LDLICs)

The report makes provision for drawing up an overall assessment of action taken on behalf of the LDLICs pursuant to the provisions of the Lomé Conventions for the next Council of Ministers meeting. It also proposes follow-up action, including a possible additional study.

(vi) 1991 implementation report <sup>(1)</sup>

The Committee submitted to the Council of Ministers its report on the implementation of financial and technical cooperation for 1991, drawn up in accordance with Article 327(1)(a) of Lomé IV.

On this basis, it forwarded to the Council a draft Resolution taking stock of implementation during 1991 and designed to improve the effectiveness of cooperation, in the light of lessons learnt from past experience.

This Resolution calls upon the Committee to ensure that previous Resolutions are applied, in particular regarding the implementation of the Fourth Lomé Convention.

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(1) The Council also took note of a Commission information note on the implementation of financial and technical cooperation in 1992.

(c) EIB activities in the ACP States

In 1993, both of the types of resources administered by the EIB in the context of the Lomé Convention (loans from its own resources with an automatic EDF interest rate subsidy and from risk capital drawn from EDF resources administered by the Bank) fell slightly because of the constraints of the economic situation.

In 1993, the Bank granted new loans from its own resources totalling ECU 138,4 million. Decisions to mobilize risk capital covered a total of ECU 69,1 million. Overall, payments reached ECU 265 million, of which ECU 148 million came from its own resources and ECU 117 million from risk capital. These amounts were slightly up on 1992.

New EIB loans were granted to 23 ACP States (including 15 in Africa). The sectoral priorities naturally correspond to the tasks conferred on the EIB by the Convention (Article 236), namely productive activities in industry, agro-industry and economic infrastructure. Strictly in line with the new guidelines laid down in Lomé IV, an increasing share of EIB operations is directed towards developing the private sector in the ACP States, either in the form of direct loans or through the acquisition of holdings in companies, or through global loans granted to finance small and medium-sized undertakings.



## **6. Industrial cooperation**

1993 was marked by further work by the main institutions responsible for ACP-EEC industrial cooperation on facilitating the realization of the ACP States' objectives regarding industrial development. <sup>(1)</sup>

In 1994, the Committee on Industrial Cooperation adopted the following decisions:

- Decision No 1/93 of 23 March 1993 on the appointment of Mr W.A. DE JONGE as a member of the Executive Board of the CDI;
- Decision No 2/93 of 23 March 1993 on the appointment of Mr P.J. MORIARTY as a member of the Advisory Council of the CIC;
- Decision No 3/93 of 23 March 1993 approving the budget of the CDI (1994).

The Advisory Committee of the CIC held its first annual meeting under Lomé IV on 28 and 29 June 1993. On that occasion, the Advisory Committee in particular:

- examined the reports of the Commission of the European Communities on the progress of industrial cooperation and investment flows;
- took note of the Community position regarding investment protection principles;
- also took note of the list of bilateral investment treaties signed by the ACP States and the Member States of the European Community.

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(1) An overview of the activities of the CDI during 1993 is given in Annex II to this report.

## **7. Agricultural Cooperation**

In the area of agricultural cooperation, 1993 was characterized by the continuation of work aimed at supporting and promoting the efforts of the ACP States to improve their situation in the sectors of agriculture, livestock breeding, fisheries and forestry <sup>(1)</sup>.

In 1993, the ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors adopted Decision No 1/93 of 22 December 1993 adopting the CTA budget for 1994.

## **8. Cultural Cooperation**

In the absence of agreement on the amount and conditions of the financial contribution to be made available by the Community to the Foundation, in accordance with Annex XXII to the Fourth Convention, the Agreement Protocol which should be drawn up between the Foundation and the Commission has still not been concluded. It will be noted that the Community's financial support to the Foundation is governed by the procedures applicable to development finance cooperation under the Fourth Convention.

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(1) An overview of the activities of the CTA for 1993 is given in Annex III to this report.



## 9. Situation in southern Africa

Southern Africa continued in 1993 to be the scene of important events which were very closely watched by the joint institutions of the Convention.

- (a) The Community and its Member States, along with the ACP States, welcomed the resumption of the Kempton Park multilateral negotiations. In September 1993 they resulted in the decision to set up a Transitional Executive Council (TEC), chiefly responsible for organizing South Africa's first multiracial elections, which were scheduled for April 1994. Further results were achieved in November 1993 with the setting up of the TEC and the drawing up of a transitional constitution and a draft electoral law.

However, the Community and its Member States, and also the ACP States, expressed concern at the acts of violence that occurred on several occasions, especially in Natal and Transvaal, and culminated in the murder of Mr. Chris Hani in April. They urged that all South African forces should take part in the transitional process and that the agreements reached in the multilateral negotiations should be respected.

In the light of these developments, the Community has gradually normalized its relations with South Africa.

In a declaration on future development cooperation with South Africa adopted by the Development Council on 25 May 1993, the Community and its Member States expressed a desire to intensify their relations with South Africa once the TEC was in place, by adapting their cooperation to the new political context in the country. While continuing actions of the kind undertaken in the framework of "positive measures", which had made it possible since 1986 to assist the victims of apartheid, the Community and its Member States announced in the declaration that they would implement longer-term activities within a number of focal sectors of special importance for the economic and social development of the most vulnerable groups in South Africa's population.

The Council (EEC) considered that the considerable political developments which had taken place in South Africa, especially the agreement to set up the TEC, paved the way for normalization of relations between the Community and that country. Acting in response to this new situation, the Council:

- confirmed the immediate lifting of certain restrictive measures, applied by the Member States <sup>(1)</sup> concerning the recall of military attachés accredited to the government in Pretoria and the refusal to consent to the accreditation of South African military attachés in Community countries, and the freeze on official contacts and international agreements in the field of security (meeting on 4 October 1993);
- decided to lift, as from the establishment of the TEC, the two sanctions concerning the ban on any further cooperation in the nuclear sector and the cessation of exports of sensitive equipment for use by the police and the armed forces (meeting on 8 and 9 November 1993);
- confirmed the following positive measures: turning the Commission Office in South Africa into a normal delegation, promoting normalization between the IMF, World Bank and other international institutions concerned and South Africa, suspending the preparation of the annual report on the code of conduct of European undertakings in South Africa (meeting on 4 October 1993).

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<sup>(1)</sup> All the economic sanctions authorized at Community level were abolished in 1991 and 1992.

In accordance with the conclusions of the European Council meeting on 29 October 1993, South Africa was the subject of one of the first applications of Article J.3 of the Treaty on European Union in the form of joint action under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). This joint action was formally adopted at the General Affairs Council meeting on 6 December 1993 <sup>(1)</sup> and involved two aspects drawing up a coordinated programme of assistance in the preparation and monitoring of the first democratic multiracial elections to take place in South Africa on 27 April 1994 and setting up a cooperation framework to consolidate the economic and social foundations of the transition.

With regard to assistance in preparing for the elections, it was planned to provide advice, technical assistance and training, as well as continuous support for non-partisan voter education, and to send a substantial number of European observers as part of an overall international effort coordinated by the United Nations.

The joint action also provided for the immediate creation of a "European Electoral Unit" in South Africa and a "contact unit" in Brussels, made up mainly of the Troika and the Commission, which would deal principally with matters which the European Electoral Unit was unable to resolve.

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<sup>(1)</sup> See OJ No L 316, 17.12.1993.

On the second aspect, the joint action provides that the Council will set in motion an internal debate on setting up an appropriate cooperation framework to consolidate the economic and social foundations of the democratic and multiracial transition and will examine any proposals that the Commission may make to that end both for the immediate period of transition and for the longer term.

- (b) The peace process in Mozambique, following the peace agreements signed in Rome in October 1992 between the Mozambique Government and RENAMO, was monitored constantly by the Community and its Member States and by the ACP States.

At the Conference of Financiers in Rome in December 1992, the Community undertook to make a substantial contribution available for the country's reconstruction programme. Despite some difficulties, these funds began to be committed. The Community also continued its action in support of the democratic process with a view to the elections scheduled for October 1994.

- (c) In 1993 the Community continued to provide substantial humanitarian aid for the people of Angola, where acts of violence had not ceased despite the results of the elections in September 1992. The elections had been judged free and fair by the international observers but were not accepted as such by UNITA forces.

## 10. Special Initiative for Africa

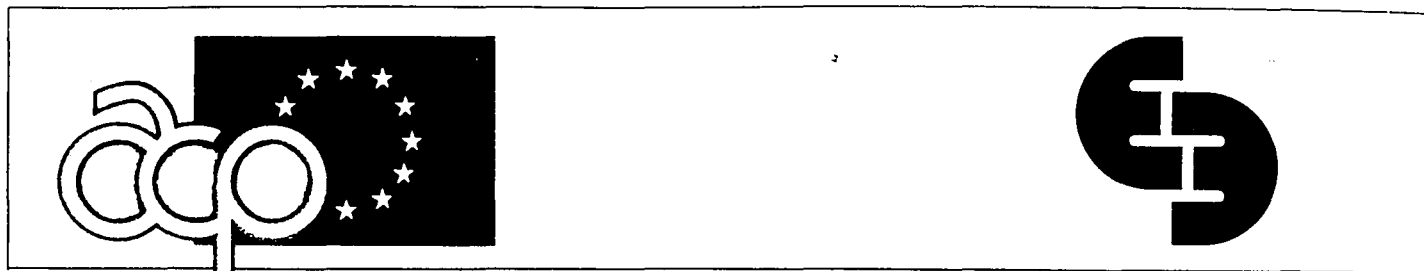
This Initiative was adopted by the Council (EEC) at its meeting on 25 May 1993. The idea was to move on from emergency assistance to rehabilitation assistance in specific sub-Saharan African countries where the situation so permitted, by developing and implementing special country programmes targeted on their pressing rehabilitation needs.

The Council then called on the Commission to evaluate urgently the resources needed for rapid implementation of the initiative. The Council considered that a sum of at least ECU 100 million should be allocated for this purpose immediately.

This rehabilitation assistance will have to be coordinated with the UN organizations and the other donors and implemented if necessary where appropriate in close cooperation with NGOs. It will also have to bridge the gap between emergency aid and longer-term development assistance enabling a return to an adequate level of subsistence.

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## 17TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ACP/EU ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Job Creation in the context of  
decentralized cooperation and the role of the  
economic and social interest groups

The representatives of the economic and social interest groups  
of the ACP States and of the European Union,  
meeting at the Economic and Social Committee, Brussels,  
on 7/8 December 1993,  
at the instigation of the ACP/EEC Joint Assembly,  
adopted the following

### FINAL DECLARATION

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

BRUSSELS. 8 DECEMBER 1993

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*Preamble*

*The participants at the 17th annual meeting of the representatives of ACP/EU economic and social interest groups welcome the content of the two introductory reports.*

*They stress that the proposals fit in with the conclusions of the meetings of recent years. The participants regret that most of the recommendations have had no effect. This results from a lack of information and a substantial communication deficit between the ACP governments, the Commission delegations and the economic and social partners.*

For these reasons, the present declaration puts particular stress on concrete undertakings decided by the economic and social partners in order to overcome this impasse.

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**(a) Decentralized cooperation**

1. Decentralized cooperation is the preferred instrument which the economic and social partners of the ACP States should use to reinforce their ability to participate in decisions on economic and social policies and in cooperation programmes established under the Lomé Convention.
2. The institutions of the European Union and the governments of the Member States should encourage their counterparts in the ACP States to involve economic and social groups in all stages of the formulation of national economic policies.
3. The Commission delegations in the ACP States should be instructed and equipped to facilitate the effective implementation of decentralized cooperation.
4. When each indicative programme is drawn up, all decentralized cooperation projects should, on the basis of a given percentage, be clearly included from the outset. The socio-economic organizations must be able to define "the objectives and priorities on which the indicative programmes are based" (Lomé IV, Article 222(2)(a)) that have been adopted by the ACP States and the European Union.
5. The mechanism for obtaining support from an ACP State for a decentralized cooperation project will have to operate more effectively. In order to prevent delays, once a request

has been submitted to the Commission delegation and the ACP government a period of time (e.g. one month) should be set after which, if the person responsible in the government concerned has raised no objection, the Commission can immediately authorize funding. Small decentralized cooperation projects will be submitted directly to the Commission delegates.

6. To ensure that these objectives can be achieved, steps should be taken to promote the establishment and strengthening of cooperatives, chambers of commerce and industry and organizations representing employers, trade unions, farmers and other occupational groups. These organizations must enjoy freedom of action and expression and must not be subordinate in any way to national governments. Their independence and institutional strengthening will, without any doubt whatsoever, constitute one of the pillars of future development and of democracy.

7. Decentralized cooperation must allow economic and social partners to come into direct contact within the framework of ACP/EU relations, in a bid to find remedies for the employment crisis.

8. An annual progress report on decentralized cooperation should be submitted by the Commission to the Council of the European Union and to the ACP/EEC Joint Assembly.

**(b) Job creation**

9. If poverty and unemployment are to be reduced, it is vitally important to create and develop enterprises. This has been recognized by successive Conventions but it has proved difficult to inculcate the enterprise culture in many ACP States.

10. In line with the above, steps should be taken to support economic activities in the informal sector, in particular those of women, so as to ensure that fully-fledged firms emerge in this sector. Special support, including technical and financial assistance, must be given to the cooperation programmes of unions, employers' associations, chambers of commerce and industry, and other trade organizations promoted with this in mind.

11. Furthermore, in the rural sector - particularly in areas where there are large numbers of small farms - support must be given to developing various forms of cooperation between agricultural producers such as cooperatives, groupings and chambers of agriculture. This must be done not only for economic reasons but also with social, technical and educational objectives in mind.

12. Decentralized cooperation should serve as a vehicle for financing projects which highlight the economic and political importance of the existence of a democratic society at local level. Such action will necessarily have an impact on the structure of the labour market, thus creating a new synergy between decentralization and job supply, with special attention being paid to women and young people.

13. Consideration should be given to establishing joint development enterprises to promote local employment in rural and urban areas and to disseminate information to job seekers and employers seeking workers. Another aim here should be the improvement of recruitment procedures. These enterprises could be managed jointly by the ACP/EU economic and social partners.

14. Consideration must also be given to the scope for establishing economic and social audit programmes which verify the employment and other spin-offs of cooperation programmes.

**(c) Revision of the Convention**

15. The next revision of the Lomé Convention must help to improve the effectiveness and transparency of the development cooperation policy.

16. The representation of economic and social partners referred to in Article 88 of the Lomé Convention must be strengthened.

17. The economic and social results of the investments made should be evaluated annually.

18. As part of the revision of the Lomé Convention, access to venture capital must be limited to the private sector in all ACP States. This capital could also be used to consolidate or create investment guarantee funds. A significant portion of these aids must be allotted to small and medium-sized firms. Workers' fundamental rights, as defined by the ILO, must be respected by private-sector firms in ACP States which receive finance for these projects.

19. The next revision of the Lomé Convention must institutionalize the existing practice of regular contacts between the economic and social partners of the ACP States and their counterparts of the European Union, meeting in the Economic and Social Committee.

**(d) Undertakings on the future action of the ACP/EU economic and social partners**

20. The participants propose the creation of a "follow-up committee", made up of twelve representatives of economic and social interest groups in the ACP States and twelve representatives of the European Union.

21. This committee will have two tasks:

to keep track of the revision and updating of the Lomé Convention, and inform its institutions of the viewpoint of the socio-economic partners;

- to provide a concrete follow-up - within its sphere of responsibility and action - to the proposals set out in the present and previous declarations.

22. The participants propose that experimental action be taken by this follow-up committee in six ACP States (one per regional grouping)

23. The first aim of these six actions should be to define - jointly with the socio-economic partners of the country concerned, its government and the Commission delegate - a "standard procedure" for the consultation/participation of the socio-economic partners in the formulation and implementation of Lomé-Convention cooperation programmes.

The key points in this standard procedure (which could be laid down by a protocol) should embody the proposals put forward at the present and previous meetings, namely:

- establishment of a national liaison committee made up of a representative of the government, the Commission delegate and representatives of socio-economic organizations;
- establishment of procedures for the provision of information to the said organizations by the Commission delegate and the national authorizing official;
- testing of the participation approach, with establishment for each cooperation programme of a development contract between the various public players (Commission, national agencies and administrations, public-sector firms) and private-sector players (private-sector firms, socio-economic partners and non-governmental organizations).

24. The second aim of the six actions will be to define, for each of the six States, the general guidelines of the decentralized cooperation pilot projects aimed at creating jobs and strengthening the role of the socio-economic organizations of the States concerned.

25. These guidelines will be notified by the follow-up committee to the (ACP and EU) socio-economic organizations with a view to their adoption of proposals, to be conveyed to the Lomé Convention institutions, for the formulation and implementation of these pilot projects.

26. The ACP/EEC Joint Assembly and the Commission are accordingly requested to sponsor these six experimental actions.

The participants at the 17th annual conference of the representatives of ACP/EU economic and social interest groups resolve that the present final declaration should be sent, for appropriate action, to the ACP/EEC Joint Assembly, to the ACP and EU Councils, to the Commission of the European Communities and to the Commission's delegates in the ACP States.

**ACTIVITIES OF THE**

**CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY**

**REPORT TO THE ACP-EEC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**





# INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF CDI

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## General context of CDI's operations

**T**he activities of the CDI, which had already significantly improved in 1991 and 1992 were further enhanced in 1993 despite the persistence of the unfavourable environment in many ACP countries, particularly in Africa.

The situation in this part of the world remained volatile with a few countries like Ghana, Madagascar, Mauritius and Uganda improving their economic performance and attractiveness to investors while others faced serious difficulties such as the CFA franc area where the expectation of impending devaluation of the CFA franc slowed down certain activities.

Despite its tremendous potential, Africa is suffering from high indebtedness equivalent to its GNP. In addition, there is a shortage of risk capital and experienced entrepreneurs coupled with poor regional integration. In this context, structural adjustment is painful with limited success. As a result, the continent is not taking advantage of the strong increase in foreign direct investment registered in other regions of the developing world such as Asia and Latin America.

The situation in the Caribbean and Pacific regions, despite certain disparities in their situation and potential, is generally much better for the development of indigenous and external investment.

## The Evolution and main results achieved by THE CDI in 1993

As in 1992, the operational budget of the CDI has been used at a rate of almost 100%, in spite of an extraordinary budget increase of ECU 1 mio being made available from Lomé III reliquats.

In addition to its own resources a further ECU 1.4 mio was mobilised by the CDI in the form of co-finance provided by European co-operating agencies. The bulk of these funds came from CFD (France), ICEP (Portugal) together with the Belgian and German co-operations.

The growing confidence shown by such bilateral European donors has also led to a significant co-operation agreement with the Italian government and to signature of agreements with new regions.

During 1993, the CDI has continued to develop its policy of triple concentration as follows :

a) countries which implement coherent policies for the development of their private industrial sector, especially when they have decided to allocate to this purpose significant resources from their National Indicative Programme of the European Development Fund;

b) sectors with high potential including agro-food, fish processing, animal feed, textile and garments, building materials and non-metal minerals;

c) **specific projects** with a high development potential which then receive repeated and significant support until the intended start-up or rehabilitation has been achieved.

The decentralisation and impact of the CDI's activities in Europe and also the ACP countries is now becoming very effective as a means to extend its activities as well as its resources.

In Europe, CDI is organising national networks of experts and institutions willing to work with the CDI, to mobilise the local potential for partnerships in ACP countries. In Germany and Spain, co-ordination committees have been set up to monitor the activities of a CDI expert whose task is to inform enterprises of the role of the CDI and its various forms of assistance, helping them to introduce their requests or offers of partnership. This scheme is to be extended soon to Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Portugal.

In the ACP countries, CDI is continuing to strengthen its network of local antennae and correspondents giving them, where appropriate, the support of regional consultants to help in the identification and preparation of projects.

However, the main step forward has been in the development and creation in certain ACP countries of the CDI's Management Advisory and Technical Support companies (MATS), which are set up in collaboration with financial institutions.

The first MATS company was created in Burundi in December 1993 and will start its activities in the first half of 1994 under a CDI management contract. The second company is to be set up in Trinidad and Tobago and will work in close complementarity with the Business Advisory Service of the International Finance Corporation and the local financial and development institutions.

Further requests for setting up MATS companies have been received from Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe. CDI will also provide its technical and financial support to the restructuring and strengthening of existing organisations such as CEPEPE in Benin and SONEPI in Senegal.

In addition to setting up MATS companies with financial institutions, the CDI has also increased its co-operation with bilateral agencies including CFD and CDC, as well as with EIB.

During the year, the CDI had eleven projects in the pipeline with EIB, out of which four have already been agreed for financing for a global amount of ECU 9.5 mio. This illustrates the growing co-operation between CDI and EIB.

**Setting up MATS companies in ACP countries will also create the conditions for the better local utilisation of lines of credit from EIB devoted to risk capital for SMEs, which are distributed through local finance institutions.**

The main bilateral European Development Finance Institutions (EDFIs) co-operating with the CDI are CFD (France), Banco di Fomento (Portugal) and CDC (UK).

With the Commission, the CDI has participated actively in various promotional activities like the organisation of the Industrial Forum for Central Africa (FICAC) in Yaoundé. It has also been associated in preparation and complementing parts of the Commission's programmes in countries such as Santo Domingo, Jamaica and Ethiopia.

Among other initiatives or promotional activities carried out by CDI one should mention :

- 1) participation with the Champagne Ardenne region in the EURAMIDE programme to assist selected African emigrants willing to return to their countries of origin to create their own enterprise;
- 2) the preparation and publishing of nine new guides for entrepreneurs including a guide for purchasing new and second-hand equipment and an investment guide for Zimbabwe;
- 3) organisation of five professional workshops including fish processing in East Africa, non-metal minerals in the Caribbean, production of animal feed in West Africa, workshop for Mauritanian industrialists in Barcelona and Lorient as a follow-up of the Nouadhibou meeting in December 1992;

4) organisation at the request of the Belgian Presidency of the Community, of an important colloquium on the future developments of industrial co-operation between the European Union and the ACP countries. This meeting brought together over 200 key representatives of the private European and ACP business circles and the main institutions involved in industrial development including EIB, CFD and CDC. (see conclusions and recommendations of the colloquium in annex 1)

## Organisational Aspects

The increase in performance by CDI staff has greatly been assisted by the implementation of a project management system to provide timely and accurate reporting on all phases of our operations from the receipt of a letter of request to the final payment for work carried out to assist the promoter.

Similar improvements have taken place in the Administration of the Centre, with the introduction of a new computer system producing new reports, allowing better control and follow up of budgets and accounting. In addition, new staff regulations have been prepared.

During 1994, there will be a greater emphasis placed upon the evaluation of the effects of its interventions upon the projects that it assists. An internal facility will be established for the ex-post evaluation of its activities. This will be complemented by a separate overall evaluation of the Centre itself. This independent review is important from time to time to ensure that the CDI is organised as effectively as possible to meet its goals.

## Main Features of CDI's Interventions

A description of the promotional activities of the CDI as well as the direct assistance given to enterprises is given in detail in the present annual report.

To summarise, during the year 612 acceptable requests were received of which 229 were approved for assistance by CDI. One hundred and fifty four enterprises received assistance in the form of 192 interventions. Sixty-two of the enterprises were new projects while the remainder were either expanding or diversifying (42) or needing rehabilitation (50). The majority (84%) of the projects were in private hands and 65% of the enterprises involved European partners.

**The average cost of interventions was ECU 39.000, covered by the CDI (45%), co-financing institutions (21%) and by the promoters (34%).**

An analysis of interventions by region shows that they were carried out in Africa (74%), the Caribbean (18%) and the Pacific (6%). This level of activity in Africa will at least be maintained as the needs are more acute and the environment more difficult than in either the Caribbean or the Pacific Regions.

**The CDI hopes that these considerations will lead to a necessary increase in its means of operations through its own budget as well as through the national indicative programmes and possible new facilities envisaged for the**

development of the private sector. This point of view should deserve to be taken into account during the negotiation of the second Financial Protocol of Lomé IV.

This, together with a simplification of the superstructure governing the Centre, are important to allow it to meet in an adequate way the needs of European and ACP entrepreneurs and in order to lead to an efficient complementarity with the Commission and the EIB.

## During 1994 CDI will :

- ◆ decentralise, with a more rationalised antennae network screening and selecting from the increasing flow of requests. It will develop more Management and Technical Services Companies in the service of enterprises.
- ◆ develop closer links with financial and development institutions like the European Commission, EIB and other regional and local institutions.
- ◆ focus on sectors already selected for more regional professional workshops such as leather in East and Southern Africa, wood products in Central Africa and the Pacific and processing tropical fruits in Africa.
- ◆ establish an internal facility for ex-post evaluation of its interventions and for the overall evaluation of the Centre itself.

## Conclusions and perspectives for 1994, in view of the second protocole of Lomé

Although CDI substantially increased its capacity of interventions by  $\pm 60\%$ , it is far from being able to meet the needs and priority now being given in the majority of ACP countries to the development of an efficient private sector.

This implies strengthening the resources of CDI combined with an effective decentralisation of its activities in ACP countries. In this respect, CDI must increase the process of setting up and providing solid support for Management Advisory and Technical Services Companies. The implementation of local, flexible and politically independent structures managed by the Centre is a crucial step in its transformation and the development of its global activities to a level matching the needs of the ACP countries.

**In addition, in the future, a considerable new impulse could be given to the role and activities of the Centre in the framework of its decentralisation process, if it were allowed to include South Africa as an additional source of partnership, technology and finance to be mobilised in favour of ACP industrial development.**

New steps forward are therefore ready to be taken by the CDI. The results of the last three years, during which the response to ACP/EU needs for partnership initiatives has

greatly increased - both in quantity and quality - will first have to be consolidated. This better response has resulted from the progressive improvement in working methods and the increase in human resources.

**It now remains to ensure the continuity in the improvement of this high quality of service to its clients in an**

**environment in which many countries are facing unprecedented difficulties. Coherence, simplification and rationalisation of its superstructure, improved co-ordination with the Commission, EIB and other agencies and financial institutions as well as accelerated decentralisation, will certainly be the keys to lasting success for the CDI.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Frix', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Paul FRIX  
Director of the CDI**

**ACTIVITES DU**

**CENTRE TECHNIQUE DE COOPERATION AGRICOLE ET RURALE (CTA)**

**RAPPORT POUR LE CONSEIL DES MINISTRES ACP-CEE**



L'année 1993 est marquée par une nouvelle approche que le CTA a poursuivie; il s'agit d'une consolidation de ses activités visant à mieux intégrer l'information scientifique et technique dans les politiques de développement agricole des pays ACP en tenant compte des perceptions, besoins et ressources disponibles dans ces pays. Le processus d'évaluation et de concertation à l'échelon régional est en pleine évolution et les responsables des pays de chaque région sont bien motivés à participer dans la programmation et du suivi des activités concernant le développement agricole et rural.

Comme chaque année, le CTA a poursuivi diverses activités pour renforcer celles déjà en cours. Ces activités sont groupées en opérations comme suit:

- (a) Programmes régionaux
- (b) Séminaires
- (c) Publications
- (d) Appui aux Centres de documentation ACP

(a) Programmes Régionaux

Les activités dans les régions des Caraïbes et du Pacifique sont pour la plupart coordonnées par des antennes installées au CARDI et à l'IRETA, les deux principales institutions régionales.

En Afrique la démarche suivie a été un processus par région visant à une évaluation des besoins en information agricole et de la programmation des activités pour permettre au CTA à mieux répondre à ces besoins.

Caraïbes

Les bureaux du CARDI dans 12 pays des Caraïbes servent comme des points focaux nationaux; dans les 4 autres pays de la région les contacts se font soit par les Ministères de l'Agriculture ou autre organisme. Le bureau régional contribue à la définition des programmes d'activités, la distribution de Spore et autres publications, la mise en oeuvre des programmes de SDI, DORA et CD-ROM et le choix de thèmes pour des séminaires.

Durant l'année 1993 le séminaire s'est déroulé en République Dominicaine sur le thème des nouvelles stratégies de lutte

intégrée contre les pestes. Trois ateliers de formation ont eu lieu:

- un cours de perfectionnement en micro-informatique documentaire pour la gestion de l'information agricole;
- un atelier de recyclage pour les journalistes de radio rurale;
- une session de formation en édition scientifique

Le Bureau Régional a distribué 896 publications, réagi à 3414 demandes et a lancé un nouveau bulletin intitulé "Pepper Pot" en vue de stimuler l'échange d'informations entre les points focaux nationaux de la région.

### Pacifique

Les "Agricultural Liaison Officers" (ALO) font office de points focaux nationaux dans les pays de la région à l'exception de Papouasie Nouvelle Guinée où le Secrétaire d'Etat du Ministère de l'Agriculture qui en assume la liaison.

Comme chaque année, l'IRETA organise plusieurs ateliers. En 1993 six ateliers ont eu lieu.

En sus des publications régulières de l'IRETA notamment:

Journal of South Pacific Agriculture;  
South Pacific Agricultural News  
Agrofact

en 1993 est sorti un dépliant, en 2000 exemplaires, sur la nécrose du taro qui a ravagé cette culture aux Samoa. L'unité vidéo CTA/IRETA a réalisé un film sur la nécrose du taro, la production de gingembre et la production des ananas aux îles Fidji et des court métrages sur des séminaires à des fins pédagogiques.

Les ALOs constituent le réseau d'information alimenté par l'IRETA qui récolte et diffuse l'information agricole parmi les spécialistes de la région et leur fournit des services régionaux d'orientation et de conseil ainsi qu'un soutien technique aux bibliothèques nationales.

### Afrique Centrale

Un comité régional d'évaluation, de programmation et de suivi (CREPS) a été constitué. Ce comité a recommandé ces activités suivantes qu'il a estimées prioritaires:

- bilan des acquis scientifiques pour l'amélioration du maïs et du manioc;
- inventaire des établissements d'enseignement agricole;
- un atelier sur la vulgarisation agricole;
- un programme de formation des formateurs en information agricole;



- la poursuite des stages de courte durée en information et documentation agricoles.

La CEEAC (Communauté économiques des Etats d'Afrique Centrale) dont le siège est au Gabon a été confirmée comme antenne régionale.

#### Afrique de l'Ouest

Le Comité (CREPS) de l'Afrique de l'Ouest a été mis sur pied. Les activités que ce comité s'est chargé à définir sont:

- La recherche agronomique;
- La formation en rédaction et édition scientifiques;
- Les séminaires et ateliers d'échange d'information;
- La vulgarisation agricole utilisant davantage les médias de la radio et la télévision;
- Les programmes d'alphabétisation avec une attention spéciale pour les associations d'agriculteurs et les groupements féminines;
- L'amélioration des équipements des centres documentaires;
- Extension du programme DORA.

#### Afrique de l'Est

Le Comité CREPS de l'Afrique de l'Est est en cours de formation. Les priorités ressentis lors de l'atelier réunissant les hauts fonctionnaires du secteur agricole des pays de la région sont;

- Elaboration dans chaque pays d'une politique claire d'information agricole;
- l'accès à la documentation et aux bases de données agricole y compris E-mail;
- l'Edition scientifique;
- La formation de spécialistes de l'information;
- La Coopération régionale;
- La réorganisation de l'offre d'information aux services de vulgarisation;
- La création des points focaux nationaux et antenne régionale.

#### Afrique australe

Le processus de consultations et ateliers pour définir les thèmes prioritaires et de la constitution du CREPS d'Afrique australe ont démarrés durant 1993. Ils seront réalisés en 1994.

#### (b) Séminaires

Le CTA organise et soutient divers séminaires en vue de favoriser la circulation de l'information et de faciliter les contacts entre spécialistes dans le domaine de l'agriculture et du développement rural.

En 1993 les rencontres suivantes ont eu lieu dans les différentes régions des pays d'Europe et des ACP:

- (i) Réseaux de documentation agricole en Afrique Centrale, Burundi.

Cette rencontre a fait le point sur les expériences des réseaux documentaires et d'échanges d'information et a identifié les facteurs limitants ou favorisant leur développement. Les participants ont déploré l'absence de politiques nationales d'information, le manque de stabilité des professionnels et le manque de leur formation. Ils ont souligné que la pérennité d'un système national reposait sur un financement interne.

- (ii) Lutte Biologique, Tonga

Cet atelier avait pour objectif d'améliorer les relations entre la recherche et la vulgarisation en vue de l'adoption de méthodes de lutte intégrée - les participants ont analysé les contraintes et les possibilités. Ils ont reconnu qu'il est important que la recherche soit attentif aussi bien aux besoins des utilisateurs qu'à ceux des gouvernements, des industriels, des bailleurs de fonds et des responsables de la communication, y compris les services de vulgarisation.

- (iii) Sécurité alimentaire des ménages, Iles Salomon

La restauration rapide gagne de plus en plus d'adeptes dans le Pacifique; il devient donc nécessaire de stimuler la production et la consommation de fruits et légumes frais, de volaille et de petits animaux, produits localement, spécialement dans les jardins et autres parcelles de terrain délaissés par l'agriculture commerciale.

Cet atelier s'est adressé particulièrement aux femmes.

- (iv) Service d'information agricole du Pacifique (PAIS), Fidji

Le principal objectif du PAIS est de fournir aux pays de la région l'information agricole appropriée à leurs besoins et de développer à l'échelon national, l'aptitude à gérer et à utiliser cette information.

Les participants à cet atelier, responsables des Centres de documentation, ont reçu une formation en micro informatique destinée à améliorer les capacités de recherche et d'exploitation des données agricoles.

- (v) Femmes et agriculture, Vanuatu

Cet atelier, destiné aux délégués d'ONG et de services gouvernementaux responsables de l'éducation et du développement rural dans la région visait à mieux

prendre conscience du rôle des femmes dans ce domaine et passer en revue des démarches à entreprendre pour leur faciliter l'accès à la formation et au crédit.

- (vi) Contrôle de qualité et commercialisation des racines comestibles, Samoa occidentales

Organisé conjointement avec les concours du South Pacific Forum et USAID, cet atelier avait pour objectif d'encourager l'exportation de produits de qualité conforme aux exigences des pays importateurs de la région.

- (vii) Nouvelles technologies de l'information, Allemagne

Ce symposium a fait le point sur les nouvelles technologies de l'information disponibles au service de centres de documentation pour le développement de l'agriculture. Les spécialistes Européens et ACP avec le concours de ZADI et l'IAALD ont examiné les facteurs coûts, viabilité et application de ces nouvelles technologies dans les pays en développement. Des sessions pratiques avaient été organisées sur les bases de données bibliographiques et factuelles, les applications multimédias et les réseaux électroniques.

- (viii) Préserver la productivité des sols dans l'agriculture intensive africaine, Ghana

Le déclin progressif de la fertilité des sols africains est un phénomène dont tout le monde en parle. Ce séminaire s'est adressé à certains thèmes tels que les pratiques d'exploitation des terres et leur rôle dans l'agriculture africaine, la suppression des contraintes pédologiques sur la production agricole, l'adoption de technologies et la planification de projets de recherche-développement.

Les recommandations ont porté sur l'inventaire des ressources, la formation des cultivateurs aux avantages d'engrais inorganiques et de résidus organiques, les méthodes améliorées d'utilisation des sols et le renforcement des mécanismes de transfert de l'information.

- (xi) Lutte intégrée : nouvelles stratégies pour les producteurs des Caraïbes, République Dominicaine

Les thrips, les mouches blanches ainsi que les pucerons et les maladies qu'ils transmettent, posent d'innombrables problèmes aux cultivateurs d'agrumes et de légumes. La lutte chimique est non seulement coûteuse mais également devient de moins en moins efficace et entraîne une résistance des insectes aux pesticides et des risques pour la santé humaine et l'environnement.

Les possibilités offertes par la lutte intégrée ont été examinées par les participants à ce séminaire.

(x) La radio rurale, Fidji

La radio est le médium le plus important utilisé dans le Pacifique pour former et informer les cultivateurs. Cet atelier était destiné aux présentateurs et producteurs d'émissions de radio rurale. Chaque participant avait élaboré sa propre émission qui a ensuite fait l'objet d'une écoute critique.

8. Vulgarisation agricole en Afrique, Cameroun

Cette réunion a eu lieu suite à une recommandation du CREPS Afrique Centrale. Il s'agissait de préciser le rôle de la vulgarisation agricole dans le contexte actuel de libération économique, d'examiner le financement des activités de vulgarisation, et d'étudier les moyens de renforcer les relations entre les acteurs responsables de véhiculer l'information agricole.

Les participants ont décidé à la fin du séminaire de créer un réseau de vulgarisation destiné à faciliter les échanges entre différents acteurs.

Soutien à des séminaires organisés par d'autres institutions

En sus des séminaires qu'il organise le CTA participe à des réunions techniques et prend en charge la participation de ressortissants ACP à des réunions et conférences organisées par d'autres institutions. Ainsi en 1993, 188 scientifiques ACP ont bénéficié de l'aide du CTA à participer à 46 rencontres.

(c) Publications

Le CTA a poursuivi sa politique d'encouragement aux auteurs et maisons d'édition à publier des ouvrages ayant un intérêt pour l'agriculture et le développement rural des pays ACP.

Le Centre a également encouragé des initiatives locales de développement d'édition en participant à deux foires de livre majeures en Afrique: la foire internationale de Zimbabwe et la foire internationale de Dakar.

Le bulletin bimestriel *Spore* en anglais et en français a atteint un tirage total de 38000 exemplaires; l'édition portugaise "Espano" a été lancée en 1993 (trimestrielle, tirage de 5000 exemplaires).

Deux manuels d'auteurs ghanéens sur l'élevage du lapin et sur l'élevage de l'escargot ont parus en 1993. L'année a aussi été marquée par la parution de nombreux ouvrages traduits de l'anglais en français. Quatre nouveaux titres sont parus dans les collections, *Le Technicien d'Agriculture tropicale*, et trois dans la collection anglaise analogue "The Tropical Agriculturist".

Plus de 20 autres ouvrages ont été co-édités. 50 nouveaux titres se sont ajoutés aux 420 déjà réalisés. Quelques 50.000 ouvrages ont été distribués en cours de l'année à 6252 adresses.

Le CTA a apporté un appui limité et sélectif à quelques périodiques, notamment le bulletin *Coopération Pêche* (DG VIII-CCE), et à la publication d'actes de séminaires organisés par d'autres institutions. Le Centre a acheté 28 ouvrages publiés par d'autres organismes, pour distribution ciblée dans les pays ACP.

#### Radiodiffusion et audiovisuels

Le Centre a poursuivi son programme d'appui aux radios rurales:

- des dossiers d'information sur six thèmes ont été fournis à des producteurs d'émissions;
- des ateliers de recyclage basés sur l'analyse critique d'émissions réalisées
- production et diffusion de vidéos et de modules supplémentaires de "l'encyclopédie illustrée du Sahel"
- production et diffusion dans le Pacifique des courts métrages sur différents thèmes (production IRETA avec équipements achetés avec l'appui du CTA).
- une étude sur l'utilisation des audiovisuels comme outils pour la vulgarisation a été lancée avec l'objectif de tenir un séminaire pour mieux préciser les politiques que le CTA devra suivre dans ce domaine.

#### (d) Appui aux Centres de Documentation

Les activités du CTA dans ce domaine peuvent se répartir sur les trois volets suivants:

- i) appui documentaire;
- ii) formation du personnel;
- iii) fourniture d'équipements;

tous ayant pour objectif la décentralisation de l'accès d'information agricole vers les centres de documentation nationaux.

- i) Appui documentaire
  - Diffusion d'ouvrages de référence en agriculture (DORA).

Aux 39 sites déjà servis par ce projet se sont ajoutés 32 pendant 1993. Au 31 décembre 1993, 3733 publications ont été expédiées. Ce projet a fait l'objet d'une évaluation en 1993. Les recommandations serviront à améliorer le choix d'ouvrages, les procédures de commande, le traitement et la gestion, ainsi que l'utilisation des ouvrages dans le contexte

d'un réseau.

Le projet DORA a été présenté aux ambassadeurs ACP invités au siège du CTA.

Diffusion sélective de l'information aux chercheurs ACP

La DSI est un service qui consiste à faire parvenir régulièrement aux chercheurs l'information correspondant à leur domaine d'intérêt. En 1993 une évaluation a été faite portant sur l'utilisation du service, l'adéquation avec les besoins des utilisateurs et l'impact sur les bénéficiaires ayant pour objectif l'amélioration de la qualité du service et de l'étendre tout en réduisant les coûts.

ii) Formation du personnel

Des cours de formation à l'intention des responsables des services de documentation des pays ACP ont eu lieu en 1993.

- Traitement de l'information agricole dans les pays lusophones d'Afrique, Portugal.
- Gestion de l'information agroforestière sur micro-ordinateur, Ethiopie
- Perfectionnement en micro-informatique documentaire pour la gestion de l'information agricole dans les Caraïbes, Trinidad;
- Cours en technologie CD-ROM, Malawi;
- Introduction au marketing de l'information agricole, Bénin.

iii) Fourniture d'équipement

Le projet CD-ROM, démarré en 1988/1989 a fourni à 35 centres dans 32 pays ACP des bases de données sur CD-ROM et les équipements incluant micro-ordinateur alimentation non interruptif, imprimante laser et lecteur de disques compacts.

En 1993 le CTA a réalisé une évaluation du projet portant sur:

- ♦ les coûts du projet;
- ♦ la possibilité de fournir des disques uniquement;
- ♦ modernisation de l'équipement;
- ♦ le CD-ROM comme médium en rapport avec autres média

Les recommandations de l'évaluation seront prises en compte dans l'élaboration future du projet.

Le Comité Consultatif

Le Comité Consultatif s'est réuni du 8 - 11 juin. Le Comité a pris connaissance du rapport annuel 1993, a passé en revue les activités de l'année en cours, indiquant qu'il apprécie leur présentation. A la suite d'une recommandation de la session de 1993, le Comité a examiné une présentation des activités en "cadre logique" faite par le CTA.

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