

# Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	<a href="#">1998/2008(INI)</a>	Procedure completed
Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 1998		
Subject 8.40.13 ACP-EU bodies		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>DEVE</b> Development and Cooperation	PPE <a href="#">CORRIE John Alexander</a>	15/04/1998

Key events			
15/11/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/02/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
17/02/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A4-0065/1999</a>	
09/03/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0150/1999	Summary
09/03/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/06/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1998/2008(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/4/08445

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A4-0065/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 175 21.06.1999, p. 0004</a>	17/02/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0150/1999 <a href="#">OJ C 175 21.06.1999, p.</a>	09/03/1999	EP	Summary

## Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 1998

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The Committee has adopted the report by John CORRIE (EPP, UK) calling for the Joint Assembly to be given a more prominent role. It welcomes the fact that 75-85% of the ACP representatives are elected. It says Parliament should take part in election-monitoring missions organised by the Commission and should accept invitations from ACP countries to observe presidential and legislative elections, provided conditions are safe, as proper monitoring is essential if the problems of the democratisation process are to be realistically assessed and progress made. The committee notes that the Joint Assembly is increasingly becoming a forum for discussion of basic human needs (e.g. universal access to primary education, drinking water and health care) and environmental and social issues. Lastly, the committee calls on Parliament to take account of the Joint Assembly's position when taking any decision on foreign policy and development issues and asks the EU Member States, the Council and the Commission to do likewise.?

## Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 1998

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The Parliament adopted its report on the work carried out in 1998 by the ACP-EU Joint Assembly, drafted by Mr. John Corrie (EPP, UK), without debate. The Parliament stresses that the Joint Assembly is a vital component of ACP-EU relations and considers it instrumental in developing the full potential of ACP-EU co-operation and in responding to the democratic challenge of how to best incorporate a deepened political dimension into the new agreement. It calls for the role of the Joint Assembly to be strengthened and for its working methods to be optimised to take account of the emerging new nature of ACP-EU co-operation, including the possibility of holding regional meetings of the Assembly. It considers that participation by NGO observers from Europe and the ACP countries in the work of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly helps to enrich the debates and reinforce links with civil society. It will give due heed to the positions of the Joint Assembly when deciding on foreign and development policy issues, as well as when deciding on matters such as trade, which are fundamentally linked to, and need to be coherent with, development policy. It is deeply concerned at various other internal conflicts and human rights violations in some ACP regions and regrets that, in some cases, the Assembly has failed to adopt a unified stance. The EP is also pleased that decentralised co-operation, involvement of civil society and co-operation with local NGOs are increasingly valued in the ACP countries and, in particular, that a reinforcement of women's rights is acknowledged to be an important precondition for sustainable development. The Parliament stresses the great importance of freedom of information, the press and opinion, as well as freedom of political opposition, including fair access to the mass media for competing political groups, for a repression-free society.?