


# Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	<a href="#">2001/2012(INI)</a>	Procedure completed
Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 2001		
Subject 8.40.13 ACP-EU bodies		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>DEVE</b> Development and Cooperation	PSE <a href="#">CARLOTTI Marie-Arlette</a>	10/04/2001

Key events			
18/01/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/02/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
21/02/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A5-0050/2002</a>	
13/03/2002	Debate in Parliament		
14/03/2002	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0127/2002</a>	Summary
14/03/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/02/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2012(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/5/14219

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A5-0050/2002</a>	21/02/2002	EP	

## Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 2001

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The committee unanimously adopted the own-initiative report by Marie-Arlette CARLOTTI (PES, F) on the work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2001. The committee wanted the Assembly to be given new powers so that it could exercise financial and political control over the funding of cooperation policy, as well as the negotiations for and ratification of new agreements. It therefore welcomed the Assembly's intention to be more actively involved in scrutiny of the management of EDF funds, so as to ensure that payments were made swiftly and efficiently. It called on the Commission to provide the Assembly with all necessary assistance to this end. The committee pointed out that the Cotonou Agreement had made profound changes to the cooperation objectives between the EU and the ACP states, by laying the foundations for a renewed partnership that was fairer and more effective. In this connection it stressed the need for representatives from European states and from the ACP countries to be on an equal footing within the Assembly. The committee regretted that the year 2001 did not live up to the hopes raised in 2000 (only three European countries having so far ratified the Cotonou Agreement) and reiterated its conviction that the Cotonou Agreement was 'still a unique symbol of interdependence and a balanced partnership' between northern countries and developing countries. ?

## Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 2001

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The European Parliament adopted the resolution drafted by Marie-Arlette CARLOTTI (PES, France) on the work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2001. (Please refer to the document dated 21/02/02). Parliament welcomed the fact that the political dimension has been placed at the heart of the partnership, and the JPA's increased responsibilities in this field. In order to implement this new approach, the JPA needs a thorough revision of its operating methods and its very nature. Reforms are required, and the JPA should be given new powers. Parliament felt that emphasising the JPA's political role should enable it more successfully to uphold the shared interest of and solidarity between ACP and European states and peoples at world level, in particular within the WTO, so that rules concerning the liberalisation of trade take account of the need for sustainable development and the problems of ACP countries. The scaling down of the EU's external relations service in the ACP countries is considered counterproductive. The Commission should reconsider the closure of delegations. With regard to rules of procedure, Parliament advocates revising the rules on the financing of the participation of the ACP parliamentarians in JPA sessions to bring them into line with the new approach in the Cotonou Agrrment. It welcomed the Assembly's intention to be more actively involved in the scrutiny of the management of EDF funds to ensure that payments are made effectivmey and speedily. The Commission needs to specify how the funds set aside for ACP parliamentarians are administered and used in order to guarantee their participation. On the basis of a strict assessment of funding arrangements for JPA sessions, the establishment of a specific fund for the sole purpose of financing the participation of parliamentary representatives is an avenue worth exploring. Furthermore, the democratic legitimacy of the JPA will only become fully effective once a solution is found to the basic imbalance between the European contingent, reflecting the spectrum of political views in the European Parliament and the "one country, one vote" principle for the ACP. This prevents different political views being expressed. There needs to be discussions with no taboo subjects, on a re-weighting of votes guaranteeing political pluralism.?