

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2006/2221(INI)	Procedure completed
EU/Andean Community: negotiating guidelines for an association agreement		
Subject 6.40.10 Relations with Latin America, Central America, Caribbean islands		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs		13/09/2006
		PSE YÁÑEZ-BARNUEVO GARCÍA Luis	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	DEVE Development		11/07/2006
		PPE-DE POMÉS RUIZ José Javier	
	INTA International Trade		12/09/2006
		PPE-DE HANDZLIK Małgorzata	
European Commission	Commission DG External Relations	Commissioner FERRERO-WALDNER Benita	

Key events			
22/06/2006	Non-legislative basic document published	B6-0374/2006	Summary
28/09/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/01/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
05/02/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0025/2007	
14/03/2007	Debate in Parliament		
15/03/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/03/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0080/2007	Summary
15/03/2007	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2006/2221(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 134o-p3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/6/40355

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		B6-0374/2006	22/06/2006	EP	Summary
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE378.632	07/11/2006	EP	
Committee draft report		PE378.775	22/11/2006	EP	
Committee opinion	INTA	PE380.678	20/12/2006	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE382.473	21/12/2006	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0025/2007	05/02/2007	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0080/2007	15/03/2007	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2007)1901/2	03/05/2007	EC	

EU/Andean Community: negotiating guidelines for an association agreement

Mr Luis Yañez-Barnuevo García (PES, Spain) submitted, on behalf of the socialist group and pursuant to Rule 114(1) of the Rules of Procedure, a proposal for a recommendation to the Council on the negotiating guidelines for an association agreement between the European Union and its Member States on the one part, and the Andean Community and its member countries on the other.

He sets out the following recommendations in his proposal:

- § the negotiating mandate should explicitly state the legal basis on which the new Association Agreement is to be negotiated, namely Article 310 of the Treaty establishing the European Union, in conjunction with the first sentence of the first paragraph of Article 300(2) and the second paragraph of Article 300(3);
- § the negotiating guidelines should clearly state support for the Andean partners in their efforts to overcome the crisis caused by Venezuela's withdrawal, prioritising an Agreement between regional blocks which will not, however, exclude such differentiated treatment as may be required in terms of the development of the integration process within the Andean Community;
- § the guidelines should identify the central issues on which the agenda and the political dialogue will focus, including the updating of objectives and focuses on issues like democratic governability, peace-keeping and security, and conflict management; the guidelines should also include fresh objectives such as reducing poverty, supporting social cohesion, migration and human exchanges, and open the way to fresh action on issues like the adoption of common positions in international fora and the United Nations, respect for human rights, etc;
- § the negotiating mandate should, in particular, include EU-ANC agreement on shared responsibility for fighting drug trafficking, its social and economic implications when implementing the measures proposed, and, in particular, those concerning market access for alternative crops, and the specific control mechanisms designed to contain and gradually reduce the related crimes of money laundering and arms trafficking;
- § the negotiating guidelines should provide for progressive access to European markets for Andean products under competitive conditions, avoiding any worsening of existing imbalances as a result of the future Agreement; the guidelines should therefore provide for special, differentiated and flexible treatment, within deadlines to be agreed, in terms of commitments given within the framework of regional integration and improved competitiveness achieved by the Andean countries, on the basis of support measures on the part of the Union and by technology transfer, the inclusion of national requirements in the rules on origin, and the establishment of cooperation and technical assistance programmes; all of which should go hand in hand with a legal environment which guarantees safety for investment and the parties' economic and trade relations;
- § as a demonstration of tangible, decisive support for the Andean regional integration process, in particular, there should be no subordinating conditions of any kind, whether explicit or tacit, making the conclusion of the future EU-ANC Agreement subject to the prior completion of the WTO round negotiations, without prejudice to the Agreement's including, in due time, those results of the Doha working programme which are compatible with the final goal of the EU-ANC Association;
- § the new Agreement's provisions on development cooperation should take account of the specific features of the Andean region, and be based on the priority need for training of human capital in order to overcome poverty in the region; for this reason, particular attention needs to be paid to education, research, science and technology and culture;

§ the Commission should provide Parliament with exhaustive information, on a confidential basis if necessary, as to its recommendations concerning the negotiating mandate.

EU/Andean Community: negotiating guidelines for an association agreement

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Lu s YA EZ-BARNUEVO GARC A (PES, ES) containing a recommendation to the Council on the negotiating mandate for an association agreement between the EU and the Andean Community. The committee emphasised the importance of clearly identifying in the mandate the central issues on which the agreement's political dialogue must focus: governability and democratic stabilisation; corruption, impunity, terrorism, narcoterrorism and its links to organised crime; peacekeeping and security; conflict management; poverty, social cohesion and migration. The other key points of the recommendation were as follows:

- the legal basis on which the new association agreement is to be negotiated should include Article 300(3), second subparagraph (under which the European Parliament must give its assent to the agreement);
- the mandate should also cover the EU-Andean Community agreement on shared responsibility for fighting drug trafficking;
- as in the case of the accord with Central America (see [INI/2006/2222](#)), not only must the 'democracy clause', other social clauses and environmental clauses be included; the mandate must also refer explicitly to the specific mechanisms which ensure that they are applied and provide for an annual report to Parliament on the follow-up carried out by the Commission in this area;
- as a demonstration of "tangible, decisive support" for the Andean regional integration process, there must be no question of making the conclusion of the EU-Andean Community agreement subject to prior completion of the WTO round negotiations.
- lastly, the specific features of the Andean region must be taken into account, starting from the premise that the training of human resources is a priority for overcoming poverty in the region. Thus, special attention must be given to education, research, science and technology, culture, public health and protection of ecosystems and biodiversity.

EU/Andean Community: negotiating guidelines for an association agreement

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Lu s YA EZ-BARNUEVO GARC A (PES, ES) containing a recommendation to the Council on the negotiating mandate for an association agreement between the EU and the Andean Community. The report was adopted by 470 votes in favour to 29 against with 65 abstentions. It stated that the negotiating guidelines for the future agreement must not overlook the serious economic, political and social deficit that exists in most of the Andean countries, nor ignore the differences in development between the two regions or the nature of economic relations within the CAN itself.

The key points of the recommendation were as follows:

- the legal basis on which the new association agreement is to be negotiated should include Article 300(3), second subparagraph (under which the European Parliament must give its assent to the agreement);
- the Council must include in the negotiating guidelines clear signals of support to the CAN members in their efforts to deepen all aspects of regional integration, fostering an agreement between regional blocs which would certainly not exclude the differentiated treatment which the development of the integration process within the CAN requires;
- it must also include in the negotiating mandate the EU-CAN consensus on shared responsibility for fighting drug trafficking, and promote alternative employment and crops and market access for them, and specific control mechanisms designed to reduce the related crimes of money laundering and arms trafficking;
- as in the case of the accord with Central America (see [INI/2006/2222](#)), not only must the 'democracy clause', other social clauses and environmental clauses be included; the mandate must also refer explicitly to the specific mechanisms which ensure that they are applied and provide for an annual report to Parliament on the follow-up carried out by the Commission in this area;
- foreign investment is an essential element for the economic development of both regions and the Council must stress that European undertakings with investments in the CAN should be expected to apply the same standards as regards working conditions and investment as are observed in the EU, and that the legal security of investors should be guaranteed on the basis of private international law and with full respect for the principle of national sovereignty over natural resources;
- the Council must consider the objectives of support for Andean regional integration ? in particular, integration of physical, transport, communications and energy infrastructures ? into the objectives of the next mandate for European Investment Bank action in Latin America and Asia, so that EIB action would effectively complement the new agreement;
- as a demonstration of tangible, decisive support for the Andean regional integration process, there must be no question of making the conclusion of the EU-Andean Community agreement subject to prior completion of the WTO round negotiations.