

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2010/2236(INI)	Procedure completed
Work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2009		
Subject 8.40.13 ACP-EU bodies		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	DEVE Development		30/08/2010
		Vers/ALE JOLY Eva	
		Shadow rapporteur	
		PPE PONGA Maurice	
		S&D CASHMAN Michael	
		ALDE GOERENS Charles	
European Commission	Commission DG Development	Commissioner PIEBALGS Andris	

Key events			
21/10/2010	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/10/2010	Vote in committee		Summary
09/11/2010	Committee report tabled for plenary	A7-0315/2010	
23/11/2010	Results of vote in Parliament		
23/11/2010	Decision by Parliament	T7-0425/2010	Summary
23/11/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2010/2236(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159

Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/7/02959

Documentation gateway

Committee draft report	PE442.796	17/09/2010	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee	PE450.654	11/10/2010	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A7-0315/2010	09/11/2010	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T7-0425/2010	23/11/2010	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2011)1476	02/05/2011	EC	

Work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2009

The Committee on Development unanimously adopted the own-initiative report drafted by Eva JOLY (Greens/EFA, FR) on the work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2009.

In-depth dialogue: Members welcome the fact that in 2009 the JPA continued to provide a framework for an open, democratic and in-depth dialogue between the European Union and the ACP countries, and calls for an enhanced political dialogue. They stress in particular the crucial role of the ACP national parliaments, as well as local authorities and non-state bodies, in monitoring and managing the Country and Regional Strategy Papers and in the implementation of the EDF and calls on the Commission to guarantee their involvement.

Improved Parliamentary monitoring: Members stress the crucial role of the ACP national parliaments, as well as local authorities and non-state bodies, in monitoring and managing the Country and Regional Strategy Papers and in the implementation of the EDF and call on the Commission to guarantee their involvement. They underline the need for close parliamentary scrutiny during the negotiation of EPAs. They call on the parliaments of the ACP countries to insist that their governments and the Commission involve them in the process of drafting and implementing the Country and Regional Strategy Papers relating to cooperation between the EU and their countries (2008-2013), and ensure their full participation in the EPA negotiations.

Financial crisis: Members draw attention to the JPA's concern at the repercussions of the current financial crisis, the adoption in Luanda of a resolution on the impact of the financial crisis on the ACP States and the resolutions on its impact and on addressing the crisis in the ACP States. They encourage the JPA to continue to work on this area and to explore additional and innovative sources of financing for development, such as an international financial transaction tax. They further call on the JPA to address the question of the eradication of tax havens.

Integration of the EDF into the EU budget: Members reiterates their position that the European Development Fund (EDF) should be incorporated into the EU budget in order to increase the consistency, transparency and effectiveness of development cooperation policy and guarantee democratic scrutiny thereof. They underline that incorporating the EDF into the EU budget is also an appropriate response to the difficulties affecting the implementation and ratification of successive EDFs.

Sudan and Somalia: Members call on the JPA to continue to monitor the situation in Sudan, Madagascar, Niger and Guinea Conakry. They call on the JPA to continue to address the situation in Somalia, which is endangering the lives of the Somali people and poses a threat to security in the region and calls on the EU to maintain its commitments regarding the promotion of the rule of law, restoring stability in the region and fighting piracy. They also call on the JPA to continue to contribute to the international community's efforts to raise awareness of the conflicts affecting the eastern DRC, to promote a negotiated political solution to the crisis and to support any action that may be proposed as part of a negotiated solution.

Exchange of views: Members welcome the fact that further regional meetings provided for in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and the JPA Rules of Procedure were held in 2009. These meetings make for a genuine exchange of views on regional issues, including conflict prevention and resolution, regional cohesion, human rights, environmental issues and EPA negotiations.

Universality of human rights: Members regret that the Council ignored the repeated calls by the European Parliament notably at the JPA in Luanda, to include a stronger clause on non-discrimination in the revision of the Cotonou Agreement. They reiterate the principle of the universality of human rights and non-discrimination as the basis upon which to enhance legitimate democratic governance and the political dialogue at the JPA and call on the Committees to make the Assembly a genuine forum for a debate.

Climate change: lastly, Members welcome the reports and resolutions on climate change adopted in 2009 which enabled the voice of the JPA to be heard at the Copenhagen Summit.

Work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2009

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the work of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2009.

Enhanced in-depth political dialogue: Parliament welcomes the fact that in 2009 the JPA continued to provide a framework for an open, democratic and in-depth dialogue between the European Union and the ACP countries, and calls for an enhanced political dialogue. It stresses in particular the crucial role of the ACP national parliaments, as well as local authorities and non-state bodies, in monitoring and managing the Country and Regional Strategy Papers and in the implementation of the EDF and calls on the Commission to guarantee their involvement.

Improved Parliamentary monitoring: Parliament stresses the crucial role of the ACP national parliaments, as well as local authorities and non-state bodies, in monitoring and managing the Country and Regional Strategy Papers and in the implementation of the EDF and calls on the Commission to guarantee their involvement. It underlines the need for close parliamentary scrutiny during the negotiation of EPAs. It calls on the parliaments of the ACP countries to insist that their governments and the Commission involve them in the process of drafting and implementing the Country and Regional Strategy Papers relating to cooperation between the EU and their countries (2008-2013), and ensure their full participation in the EPA negotiations. Parliament welcomes the increasingly parliamentary ? and hence political ? nature of the JPA, together with the ever more active role played by its members and the greater quality of its debates, which are helping it to make a vital contribution to the ACP-EU partnership.

Financial transaction tax: Parliament draws attention to the JPA's concern at the repercussions of the current financial crisis, the adoption in Luanda (Angola) of a resolution on the impact of the financial crisis on the ACP States and the resolutions on its impact and on addressing the crisis in the ACP States. It encourages the JPA to continue to work on this area and to explore additional and innovative sources of financing for development, such as an international financial transaction tax. It further calls on the JPA to address the question of the eradication of tax havens.

Integration of the EDF into the EU budget: Parliament reiterates its position that the European Development Fund (EDF) should be incorporated into the EU budget in order to increase the consistency, transparency and effectiveness of development cooperation policy and guarantee democratic scrutiny thereof. It underlines that incorporating the EDF into the EU budget is also an appropriate response to the difficulties affecting the implementation and ratification of successive EDFs.

Role of the JPA in local conflict resolution: Parliament calls on the JPA to continue to monitor the situation in Sudan, Madagascar, Niger and Guinea Conakry. It calls on the JPA to continue to address the situation in Somalia, which is endangering the lives of the Somali people and poses a threat to security in the region and calls on the EU to maintain its commitments regarding the promotion of the rule of law, restoring stability in the region and fighting piracy. It also calls on the JPA to continue to contribute to the international community's efforts to raise awareness of the conflicts affecting the eastern DRC, to promote a negotiated political solution to the crisis and to support any action that may be proposed as part of a negotiated solution. Parliament welcomes the JPA's efforts as regards the conflict resolution in Niger and Madagascar.

Exchange of views: Parliament welcomes the fact that further regional meetings provided for in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and the JPA Rules of Procedure were held in 2009. These meetings make for a genuine exchange of views on regional issues, including conflict prevention and resolution, regional cohesion, human rights, environmental issues and EPA negotiations. Parliament deplores the fact that the JPA was not properly consulted during the drafting of the Joint EU-Africa Strategy and hopes that the Assembly will be actively involved in the implementation of that strategy.

Universality of human rights: Parliament regrets that the Council ignored the repeated calls by the European Parliament notably at the JPA in Luanda, to include a stronger clause on non-discrimination in the revision of the Cotonou Agreement. It reiterates the principle of the universality of human rights and non-discrimination as the basis upon which to enhance legitimate democratic governance and the political dialogue at the JPA and call on the Committees to make the Assembly a genuine forum for a debate.

Climate change: Parliament welcomes the reports and resolutions on climate change adopted in 2009 which enabled the voice of the JPA to be heard at the Copenhagen Summit.

Non-State actors: lastly, Parliament welcomes the growing involvement of non-state actors in JPA sessions.