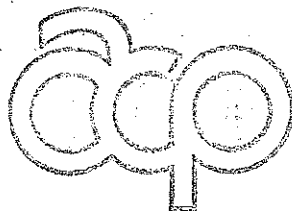


Groupe des états d'Afrique  
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique  
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and  
Pacific Group of states  
(ACP Group)

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Brussels, 12th December 1985

Or.: E

D R A F T

HARARE DECLARATION ON INTRA-ACP COOPERATION

Decision of the Second Special Session of the  
Council of ACP Ministers on Intra-ACP Cooperation  
Harare, Zimbabwe, 25th October 1985\_7

The Council of ACP Ministers meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 21st to 25th October 1985, in the Second Special Session of Council on Intra-ACP Cooperation,

REAFFIRMING the commitments of the ACP countries under the Georgetown Agreement, the Suva Declaration and Programme of Action and the Montego Bay Plan to promote and accelerate effective cooperation among developing countries in general and ACP States in particular;

RECOGNISING the importance of preparatory technical conferences, reports, etc., on the six under-mentioned priority sectors as identified in the Suva Declaration and Programme of Action;

CONSCIOUS of the widespread efforts among developing countries for sub-regional, regional and inter-regional cooperation;

REAFFIRMING its support for existing sub-regional, regional and inter-regional programmes, plans and instruments of cooperation;

HAVING CONSIDERED the various documents prepared specifically for this Special Session in relation to the six priority sectors on Intra-ACP Cooperation;

ANXIOUS to advance the process of collective self-reliance which in the present unbearable economic situation resulting from the indebtedness of developing countries, recession, famine and natural disasters, represents a significant means for achieving their economic recovery and further development;

RECOGNISING and supporting the idea of an ACP Trade Fund or Bank which would initially concentrate its efforts on trade financing, guarantees to assist the members with balance of payments difficulties, etc.;

RECOGNISING FURTHER that for Intra-ACP Cooperation to be effective it must be based on plans and programmes, which take into consideration the ACP States' cultural and social values, their human capacities, natural resources and their economic potential and are capable of being implemented at the national, sub-regional, regional and inter-regional levels;

CONVINCED that all plans and programmes must be more realistically designed in accordance with the specific characteristics of the ACP states and the means available to the participating ACP States including sub-regional, regional, and inter-regional organisations;

REAFFIRMS THE COMMITMENT OF THE ACP STATES TO GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO :

- (a) the adoption of national policies in essential sectors which are contributory to national and collective self-reliant and self-sustaining development;
- (b) the adoption of regional and inter-regional strategies which define specific operational action programmes, particularly in the field of trade liberalisation, transport and communications, development finance, technology, agriculture, industry, education and training, scientific and cultural cooperation;

- (c) the adoption of regional policies and programmes aimed at removing or attenuating the impact of common obstacles to the development of ACP countries (e.g. drought, desertification and other natural disasters, epidemics, etc.);
- (d) the designing, establishment and support of a realistic institutional framework under which appropriate resources - human, material and financial - are mobilised effectively to implement agreed programmes at regional and inter-regional levels;
- (e) close consultations among ACP countries with a view to devising and promoting common positions in international fora in order to protect ACP interests and strengthen their bargaining power;
- (f) enhancing cooperation with other developing countries;
- (g) the adoption of special measures which take into consideration the specific disadvantageous situation of the least developed, landlocked and island countries;

IN THE ABOVE CONNECTION :

- (i) decides to restructure and strengthen the ACP General Secretariat as a matter of urgency so as to enable it to effectively assist the Committee of Ambassadors in designing a programme of action, as well as to undertake the preparation, coordination and monitoring the Programme of action;

(ii) commits itself to utilising resources available under the Lome III Convention as well as financial and technical resources which may be made available through approaches to other international organisations, institutions and agencies for the implementation of the intra-ACP Programme of Action;

(iii) invites the CDI and the CTA to extend their operations in order to assist in the implementation of the Intra-ACP Cooperation Programme of Action under the framework of Article 191(1c) of Lome III Convention;

(iv) instructs the ACP Committee of Ambassadors to prepare with the assistance of the ACP Secretariat, a Programme of Action to be submitted to the forthcoming sessions of the ACP Council of Ministers. This programme should give priority to the following sectors :

sectors :

- (1) transport, communications and other services;
- (2) trade;
- (3) development of intra-ACP enterprises and cooperation in production;
- (4) development finance;
- (5) technology, know-how and technical assistance
- (6) cultural, scientific and educational cooperation.