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European Economic and Social Committee



CPDC
Caribbean Policy Development Centre

3RD MEETING OF THE CARIFORUM-EU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT NOVEMBER 6TH-7TH 2017 TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO DRAFT AGENDA

BACKGROUND

The CARIFORUM-EU Consultative Committee (CC) was established with the task and responsibility of assisting the Joint Council (JC) to promote dialogue and cooperation between representatives of organisations of civil society, including the academic community, and social and economic partners. The dialogue is to encompass all economic, social and environmental aspects of the relations between the Parties to the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), as they arise in the context of the implementation of the EPA.

It is made up of forty (40) standing representatives of organisations of the civil society, twenty-five (25) selected by the CARIFORUM States and fifteen (15) in representation of organisations located in the European Union.

The Committee also makes recommendations to the CARIFORUM-EU Trade and Development (TD) Committee and to the CARIFORUM-EU Parliamentary Committee.

ANNOTATED AGENDA

The aim of this 3rd meeting of the Joint CARIFORUM-EU Consultative Committee is to continue the dialogue and to agree on a plan of action that will lead to the identification of thematic priorities to monitor the implementation of the EPA. As such, it is anticipated that Non-State Actors (NSA) will share experiences, exchange knowledge, and approaches in monitoring EPA Implementation. NSA will lobby to be genuine partners for development and to be integrated into the implementation strategies and frameworks. The main outcome of the meeting has to be clear messages on the various priority issues and challenges that could inform the work of the Trade & Development Committee and the Joint Council. The Committee will also be exploring the goal for a broader and deeper partnerships between state and non-state actors and a proactive role in the monitoring of EPA implementation.

Agenda #3 – Addresses and Updates

The Representative of the Delegation of the European Union will provide updates on any Joint Council and T&D decisions and information following their meetings since 2016. Additionally, the CC would like the EU representative to present brief remarks on their perspective on the implementation of the EPA thus far, including any relevant best practices and/or lessons learnt.

A CARICOM Minister will be invited to make a presentation on recent meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) and any other matters occupying the attention of the CARICOM/CARIFORUM Community in relation to the EPA and EU development cooperation matters.

The EU Co-Chair of the CC will present an update from the last meeting to now and identify the areas/actions done/not done and justify the reasons why, also from her will be input and follow up from work done by MEP and report on SADC interaction on EPAs. The EU Co-Chair will also highlight any additional information on the recently concluded meeting of the JPA.

Agenda #4 – Work Plan Discussion

Both CARIFORUM and European civil society representative will present short reports on priority issues that could facilitate or present barriers to the implementation of the EPA. Reports will also be presented on the conclusion and/or outcomes of recently held meetings including the ninth CELAC Civil Society Meeting, and the 1st ACP Non-State Actors Meeting and the presentation of Reports on the activities of both the CARIFORUM and European Civil Society Secretariats.

Agenda #5 – WP Discussion Part#2

The draft of the work plan developed at the second meeting of the CC would have been circulated and would now be discussed in tandem with issue papers provided by members before the meeting. It would be expected that there would be at least three (3) areas of discussion groups namely;

Economic, Social, and Environmental, that will feed into the draft work plan for later that day. The papers will be presented based on the number received **before** the meeting and presenters will be allocated a **maximum** of five (5) minutes to present.

The leads will present their input in draft, and this will feed into a discussion on indicative budget requirements- which may assist in defining the scope of work for the work plan

Agenda #6 – Summary reports on EPA Implementation

These presentations of reports are meant to highlight key aspect of each of the areas for members to consider when adopting the work plan. They are meant to be primarily summary reports from Agencies or Institutions charged with the responsibility to implement the EPA activities.

Agenda #7 Measures and Mechanisms for EPA Implementation

This session is meant to look at the metrics for evaluating progress of the implementation of the EPA. In the modern context this may be referred as a logframe and the committee would be required to ensure that we can identify those variables that can have measurable outcomes to define success in EPA implementation

Agenda #8 – Monitoring and Evaluation of the EPA

This is a matter that has engaged several meetings of the CC without drawing conclusions and a way forward. It is expected that the papers presented would help guide the CC to reach some common resolve as to the M&E framework which the CC would use as its benchmark to carry out its mandate.

Agenda #9 – Revise Work Plan and Allocation of Responsibilities

Conclude discussion on work plan and propose an allocation of responsibilities to members of the joint committee. Organisations will then be asked to voluntarily agree to the proposed areas of work allocated to their organisations.

Agenda #10 – Local Solutions for Global Issues

EU Civil Society organisation shares lessons and best practices on local solutions to Global issues. Discuss the way forward and present the draft Joint Statement to the Plenary.

Agenda #11 – Preparations for the next JCC and Trade and Development Committee Meetings

Discuss proposals and preparation of reports for the next meeting of the JCC and the Trade and Development Committees

Agenda #12 – Closing Session

Adoption of Final Joint Statement and Work Plan. There will also be discussion of the next meeting of the Consultative Committee

DAY ONE

Agenda Item	Monday November 6 2017		
1	8:15 -9:00 a.m.	Registration	
2	09:00 -09:15 a.m	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chair CARIFORUM - Co-Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee ❖ Adoption of Agenda 	
3	9:15 – 10:15 a.m.	Brief Addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Representative of the Delegation of the European Union ❖ CARICOM Minister of Government (Unconfirmed) ❖ Chair EU - Co-Chair of the Consultative Committee 	The Head of the EU Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago, His Excellency Mr. Arend Biesebroek
	10:15 – 10:30 a. m.	A.M. BREAK	
4	10:30 – 12:30 p.m.	Presentation of short reports and/or updates from the EU and CARIFORUM that impact on EPA implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Establishment of special Committee on Services ❖ Establishment of a Cultural Fund ❖ The link between EPA implementation and youth employment, employers and Entrepreneurship ❖ Joint Declaration from CELAC Civil Society ❖ Outcomes from 1st ACP Non- State Actors meeting ❖ Presentation of report from EU and CARIFORUM sides on activities of secretariats of the CC 	Chair: CARIFORUM Co-Chair of the CC Caribbean Representative Caribbean Representative EESC Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce EESC and CPDC
	12:30- 14:00 p.m.	LUNCH	
5	14:00- 15:30 p.m.	Presentation of draft elements of a proposed Work Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Draft work-plan presentation ❖ Discussion on priority issues for work plan – Issue papers from Members 	Chair:- EU Co-Chair of Session Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce CF & EU CC Secretariats
	15:30- 15:45 p.m.	P.M. BREAK	

6	15:45- 17:00 p.m.	Means of Implementation for the Work Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ EDF programming of Resources to support regional priorities ❖ Refresher on NIP and CRIP process 	TBC
7	17:00- 18:00 p.m.	Discussion on Mechanisms and Measures for EPA Implementation	Chair: CF Co-Chair of the JCC
END OF DAY 1			

DAY TWO

Agenda items	Tuesday November 7, 2017		
8	09:00 -10:30 a.m.	Monitoring & Evaluation of the EPA ❖ Discussion papers on EPA monitoring	Chair: EU Co-Chair of the JCC
	10:30 -10:45 a.m.	A.M. BREAK	
9	10:45 -12:30 p.m.	Present Revised Work Plan Allocation of Responsibilities among Committee Members	Co-Chairs of the Joint Consultative Committee
	12:30 -14:00 p.m.	LUNCH	
10	14:00 -14:30 p.m.	Local solutions to global issues – Sharing best practices	EU Civil Society Representative
11	14:30 -15:45 p.m.	Discussion on way forward Presentation of Draft Joint Statement	Chair: Co-Chairs of the Joint Consultative Committee
	15:45 – 16:00 pm	BREAK	
12	16:00 -17:00 p.m.	Proposals and Decision on reports to be elaborated from both sides for the next meeting of the JCC and Trade and Development Committee	Co-Chairs of the JCC
13	17:00 -17:30 p.m.	Closing session and Adoption of Joint Statement and Work Plan	Co-Chairs of the JCC
		END OF MEETING	