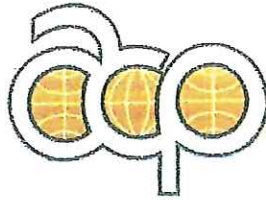


Organisation of African,
Caribbean and Pacific States
(OACPS)



Organisation des États
d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et
du Pacifique (OEACP)

REFERENCE **OACPS/25/004/20**
[Final]

Banjul, 28 July 2020

**DECISIONS OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION
OF THE OACPS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY, 28 JULY 2020**

259

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SUMMARY *esa*

DECISIONS

No. 1 Decision on Post-Cotonou Negotiations

No. 2 Decision on the financial situation of the Secretariat of the OACPS

No. 3 Decision on the list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions and that of Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF)

No. 4 Decision on the Management of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and rural Cooperation (CTA) in the framework of Post-Cotonou transitional measures *esa*

(M)

DECISIONS₂₀₉

①

**DECISION No.1/CXI/20
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE OACPS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE ON 28 JULY 2020**

POST-COTONOU NEGOTIATIONS

ea

The OACPS Council of Ministers,

- Meeting by video conference on 28 July 2020,

HAVING REGARD to the Revised Georgetown Agreement;

HAVING REGARD to Decision No.2/CVII/18 of its 107th Session held in Lomé, Togo, from 30 May to 1 June 2018, in which the ACP Negotiating Mandate was adopted;

HAVING REGARD to Decision No.6/CVIII/18 of its 108th Session held in Brussels, Belgium, from 13 to 14 December 2018, in which Council affirmed that the new agreement shall be a single partnership agreement embodying a foundation and three regional protocols which together will be legally binding;

HAVING REGARD to the report of the Ministerial Central Negotiating Group contained in document [ACP/00/140/20];

HEREBY DECIDES TO:

1. **adopt** the report of the Ministerial Central Negotiating Group(CNG-M) as set out in document [ACP/00/140/20];
2. **endorse** the jointly agreed parts of the Agreement presented in the evolving draft of the new OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement dated 24 July 2020, subject to legal scrubbing;
3. **commend** the Ministerial Central Negotiation Group for the substantial work accomplished; and
4. **mandate** the Ministerial Central Negotiating Group to conclude the outstanding parts and finalize the negotiations as well as initialling of the Agreement.

ea

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Done in Banjul, 28 July 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mambury Njie', written over a large, loopy circular flourish.

The Honourable Mambury Njie
Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of
The Gambia
President of the OACPS Council of Ministers

DECISION No.2/CXI/20
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE OACPS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE ON 28 JULY 2020

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE OACPS

esa

The OACPS Council of Ministers,

- Meeting by video conference on 28 July 2020,

HAVING REGARD to the Revised Georgetown Agreement, in particular Article 30 which stipulates that each Member State shall contribute to the Budget of the Secretariat of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) through annual contributions;

HAVING REGARD to Article 6a (3) of the Financial Regulations of the Secretariat of the OACPS which requires Member States to pay at least fifty percent of their assessed contributions by 31 March each year;

CONSIDERING the Report of the Committee of Ambassadors to the Extraordinary Session of the OACPS Council of Ministers [ACP/26/063/20];

CONCERNED with the low level of contributions from Member States during the first half of the year in breach of the Financial Regulations;

NOTING FURTHERMORE that the delayed payments impact negatively on the implementation of the approved programmes of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS);

HEREBY DECIDES TO :

1. **urge** Member States to honour their obligations as provided for in the Financial Regulations; and
2. **mandate** the Committee of Ambassadors to consider and approve any plan to reschedule the payment and/or clear the arrears in contributions submitted by a Member State in line with the procedures set out in document [ACP/45/011/03 Rev.3] and to strictly apply the regime of sanctions provided for in Annexe I of the Revised Georgetown Agreement.

esa



Done in Banjul, 28 July 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the name 'Mambury Njie' followed by a stylized flourish. The signature is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

The Honourable Mambury Njie
Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of
The Gambia
President of the OACPS Council of Ministers

**DECISION No.3/CXI/20
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE OACPS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE ON 28 JULY 2020**

**LIST OF NON-COOPERATIVE TAX JURISDICTIONS AND THAT OF ANTI-MONEY
LAUNDERING AND COUNTER-TERRORISM FINANCING(AML/CFT)** 209

The OACPS Council of Ministers,

- Meeting by video conference on 28 July 2020,

RECALLING the objectives of the Revised Georgetown Agreement, particularly consolidating and strengthening the solidarity of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS);

HAVING REGARD to Decision No. 8/CVII/2018 of the 108th Session of the OACPS Council of Ministers on the list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions on 30 May 2018 establishing an Ad hoc ACP Ministerial Contact Group on Tax Matters;

WELCOMING the letters from the incumbent President of the Summit of OACPS Heads of State and Government sent to the Presidents of the EU institutions, as well as that of the Secretary General to the President of the OACPS-EU Council of Ministers on the EU list of countries that the EU consider to have strategic deficiencies in their Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CFT) regime;

HAVING REGARD to the Committee of Ambassadors' Report to the Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, highlighting the following concerns raised regarding the EU's AML/CFT list and approach: (i) non-compliance with the Cotonou Partnership Agreement; (ii) the implications for and adverse effects of the EU's unilateral approach on the countries concerned; and (iii) the disregard for the action plans of the countries concerned, in collaboration with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF);

HEREBY DECIDES TO:

1. **change** the name of the Ad hoc ACP Ministerial Contact Group on Tax Matters to the Ad hoc OACPS Ministerial Contact Group on the EU List of Non-Cooperative Tax Jurisdictions and that of Third Countries regarding Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (Contact Group). The latter may delegate any of the tasks entrusted to it to a similar contact group at the level of the Committee of Ambassadors; 209

2. **mandate** the Contact Group to engage in dialogue with the EU, in particular the German Council Presidency, on the list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions and that of third countries that the EU consider to have strategic deficiencies in their AML/CFT regime, in light of the inclusion of OACPS countries on the EU's list on these matters, in order to find mutually acceptable solutions;
3. **agree** that the Contact Group shall comprise representatives from each OACPS region; and
4. **invite** the Contact Group to present a report to the Council at its next session. *edg*

Done in Banjul, 28 July 2020



**The Honourable Mambury Njie
Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of
The Gambia
President of the OACPS Council of Ministers**

**DECISION No.4/CXI/20
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE OACPS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE ON 28 JULY 2020**

**MANAGEMENT OF THE TECHNICAL CENTRE FOR AGRICULTAL AND RURAL
COOPERATION (CTA) IN THE FRAMEWORK OF POST-COTONOU
TRANSITIONAL MEASURES**

200

The OACPS Council of Ministers,

- Meeting by video conference on 28 July 2020,

HAVING REGARD to the Revised Georgetown Agreement;

HAVING REGARD to the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, in particular Article 95 (4), second paragraph, which states that "the Council of Ministers shall adopt any transitional measures that may be required until the new agreement comes into force";

HAVING REGARD to Decision No.6/CIX/19 of the 109th Session of OACPS Council of Ministers, held in Brussels, Belgium, from 21 to 22 May 2019;

HAVING REGARD to the Report of the Committee of Ambassadors, in particular, in paragraph 12;

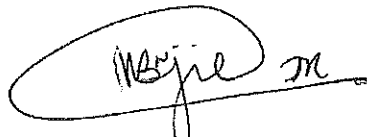
HEREBY DECIDES TO:

1. **endorse** the appointment of the Head of Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation (LME) Unit, Dr Ibrahim Khadar, as Director of CTA from 01 March 2020 to 31 December 2020;
2. **mandate** the current Executive Board members' term of office, which expired on 29 February 2020, to be extended up to 31 December 2020; and
3. **ensure** that the physical and intellectual assets of the Centre are properly secured and absorbed into the other OACPS assets so that all the good works of the CTA are not lost.
4. **mandate** the Committee of Ambassadors to examine the possibility of transforming the CTA into a subsidiary and consultative body of the OACPS, in accordance with Article 25 of the Revised Georgetown Agreement. This body could take the form of a light management structure for CTA's achievements that will accompany the State of the OACPS in promoting the digitalisation of agriculture and sustainable agricultural practices that respect the climate.

esa



Done in Banjul, 28 July 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mambury Njie', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval. The signature is written in a cursive style.

**The Honourable Mambury Njie
Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of
The Gambia
President of the OACPS Council of Ministers**