
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order declares the Agreement amending the 2000 Partnership Agreement between the Members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part (the Cotonou Agreement⁽¹⁾), signed in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005, to be a Community Treaty as defined in section 1(2) of the European Communities Act 1972.

The Agreement amends the Cotonou Agreement by adding provisions dealing with certain political and security concerns, co-operation strategies, implementation procedures, and development assistance.

The principal effect of declaring the Agreement to be a Community Treaty as so defined is to bring into play, in relation to it, the provisions of section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972 which provide for the implementation of treaties specified in Orders made under section 1(3) of that Act.

The Cotonou Agreement was signed on 23 June 2000 and was concluded for a period of 20 years. It covers political and trade relations and development co-operation and has, as its central objective, the reduction and eventual eradication of poverty. The Cotonou Agreement is subject to review every five years. It was specified as a Community Treaty by The European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Partnership Agreement between the Members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States and the European Community and its Member States (The Cotonou Agreement)) Order [2001 No. 3935](#).

A full regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no impact on the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen.

(1) Cm 5882.