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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Economic and financial impact of climate change on the ACP States**

*Committee on Economic Development, Finance and  
Trade*

*Directorate-General for Communication*  
**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

# CLIMATE CHANGE IN ACP COUNTRIES

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Vote: 1 April 2010

## **Economic and financial impact of climate change on the ACP States**

**Co-rapporteurs:** Buti MANAMELA (South Africa) and Frank ENGEL (EPP, Luxembourg)

**EU and ACP countries should invest more in alternative clean energy sources and in technologies to improve energy efficiency, says the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) in a resolution, pointing out that the private sector must also finance climate-related activities.**

Developing countries are most at risk from climate change, which will have a financial and economic impact on many sectors, including agriculture and livestock productivity. These countries' heavy reliance on primary sector production as a main source of national income leaves them most at risk from climatic changes.

Climate change can also lead to increased scarcity of resources, such as habitable land and drinking water, what can increase instability in the developing world and have an impact on developed countries general security.

The JPA demands the EU and ACP countries to invest in alternative clean energy sources, in technologies to improve energy efficiency and in more water-efficient farming methods, making the patents and processes available at no cost to entrepreneurs and State-owned companies. The ACP-EU JPA also calls for a widespread use of renewable energies, especially solar energy.

Funds for climate-related activities should constitute money in addition to donors' commitments on Official Development Assistance (ODA), says the resolution, adding that "careful records" must be kept to prevent ODA funds being double counted to make up quotas for climate-change-related funding.

According to Members, the sums to combat climate change in developing countries should also come from the private sector. The JPA welcomes, therefore, the initiatives of EU Member States to establish voluntary levies on air and sea transport emissions and calls for a tax on international freight transport proportional to the pollution volume of each mode of transport.

Members of the European Parliament and their counterparts from the ACP countries stress the need for private actors from EU countries to behave "in socially responsible ways" in ACP countries, particularly concerning respect for the environments and habitats on which local communities depend. The text calls to pay special attention to exploitation of natural resources.

The JPA regrets the failure of the Copenhagen Conference in December 2009 since it has not led to a comprehensive legally binding international agreement and it calls on the EU to fully assume its responsibility to reach a binding agreement during the Cancun conference (November-December 2010).

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/60\\_19/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/60_19/default_en.htm)

Link to website of the ACP/EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly

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