

DCAR_PV(2011)0615

MINUTES

Wednesday 15 June 2011, 15.00 – 18.30 and Thursday 16 June, 09.00– 12.30
Brussels

The meeting opened at 15.13 on Wednesday, 15 June 2011, with David Martin (Chair) in the chair.

1. Adoption of agenda PE 458.915

The draft agenda was adopted as shown in these minutes.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of:

- 12 April 2011

PV – PE458.914v01-00

This item was not treated.

3. Chair's announcements

The chair informed participants that the European Trade Commissioner De Gucht had confirmed his attendance at 10.00 on 16 June.

He also informed that after the meeting, at 18.30, in cooperation with the West Indies Rum & Spirits Producer's Association and the Caribbean Council, there would be a Caribbean Rum Reception or degustation at the open space in front of the meeting room, PHS 5B001.

4. Follow-up and report back from the CARIFORUM-EU Trade and Development Committee, Barbados, 9-10 June, 2011, together with:

- H.E. Audrey Joy Grant, Ambassador of Belize
- Mr Peter Thompson, Director for Development and EPAs, DG Trade

Both Ambassador Grant and Peter Thompson, director for Development and EPAs in DG Trade, reported on major achievements in the implementation of the agreement in the last 18 months. Institutions are now more or less in place, regional and national coordinators appointed and a regional implementation office established. But the deadline for the tariff reductions foreseen in the agreement has not been met, and is one of the challenges for 2011.

The issues that were most intensively debated were however related to bananas, rum and free movement of people. Seven out of the ten proposed beneficiary countries for

the Banana Accompanying Measures come from the CARIFORUM region. Members expressed their frustration as regards the delay in the disbursements of the fund to the region, due to the horizontal negotiations on the external financial instrument, and asked for a quick solution.

Regarding the question of rum imports, Caribbean producers claim to be victims of preference erosion due to EU negotiations with other regions, and also of unfair competition, as other producers from third countries use misleading labelling for their products, not in compliance with EU standards.

CARIFORUM members also underlined the need for increased facilities as regards free movement of people, asking for visa waivers as one way to increase possibilities for cultural exchanges, in view of the importance of the music sector, among others, in the region.

Speakers: Peter Thompson (DG Trade), Audrey Joy Grant (Ambassador of Belize), David Martin (S&D), Niccolò Rinaldi (ALDE), Gregory Mair (MP Jamaica), Maurice Ponga (EPP), Rabindre Tewari Parmessar (MP Suriname), Alejandro González Pons (Ambassador of Dominican Republic), Robert Sturdy (ECR)

15 June 2011, 16.30 – 17.30

5. Exchange of views with Ambassador Errol Humphrey, author of the study
'Implementing the EPA, challenges and bottlenecks in the CARIFORUM region'
(case studies of Barbados, the Dominican Republic and St Vincent and the Grenadines)

Ambassador Errol Humphrey, previous ambassador of Barbados to the EU and part of the Cariforum EPA negotiating team, presented a very recently accomplished study on *'Implementing the EPA, challenges and bottlenecks in the CARIFORUM region'*, via videolink from Barbados.

In his study, it was revealed that several of the EPA implementation concerns and challenges were common across the Caribbean even though the approach to resolving them might differ from country-to-country, and he suggested a number of actions to address some of the major bottlenecks, including more effective information dissemination, increased competitiveness efforts, an EPA Implementation Roadmap and matrix, monitoring mechanisms and increased access to technical assistance and development resources for EPA-related projects and programmes.

Speakers: Ambassador Errol Humphrey, Surujrattan Rambachan (MP Trinidad and Tobago), Gregory Mair (MP Jamaica), Rabindre Tewari Parmessar (MP Suriname), David Martin (S&D), Patrick Gomes (Ambassador of Guyana)

6. Exchange of views on the programming of development support for the CARIFORUM-EC EPA

Mr Rune Skinnebach from EEAS gave a short overview of the 10th EDF Caribbean Regional Strategy Paper and Regional Indicative Programme, which were signed by the Caribbean Forum of ACP States (CARIFORUM) and the European Commission in November 2008, and he mentioned some of the latest programs and funding

opportunities and the state of play. He noted with satisfaction that the Caribbean states are strongly committed to regional cooperation and the EU remains committed to fund EPA related projects that aim to tackle poverty and underdevelopment. MPs from the Caribbean states, in return, suggested the EU to simplify administrative procedures for the EDF funding in order to make it accessible to wider state and non-state actors.

Speakers: Rune Skinnebach (EEAS), David Martin (S&D), Gregory Mair (MP Jamaica), Rabindre Tewari Parmessar (MP Suriname), Marcia Gilbert-Roberts (Ambassador of Jamaica)

7. Discussion and possibly adoption of the Rules of Procedures of the CARIFORUM-EU Joint Parliamentary Committee

A very constructive first discussion was held on the draft Rules of Procedures, but further deliberations are needed on issues such as organisation of the secretariat on the CARIFORUM side, before final adoption.

Speakers: Gregory Mair (MP Jamaica), Peter Šťastný (EPP), Rabindre Tewari Parmessar (MP Suriname), Oesman Wangsabesari (MP Suriname).

The meeting was adjourned at 18.30.

16 June 2011, 10.00 – 12.30

The meeting resumed at 10.00.

8. Election of the Bureau of the CARIFORUM-EU Joint Parliamentary Committee:

- 2 Co-Chairs
- 4 Vice-Chairs

The body elected its two Co-Chairs, David Martin (S&D, UK) and Surujrattan Rambachan (Trinidad and Tobago), as well as its Vice-Chairs Mrs Eleni Theocharous (EPP, Cyprus), Mr Niccolò Rinaldi (ALDE, IT) from the European Parliament side, and Mr Rizek Afif Nazario, Dominican Republic and Mr Rabindre Parmessar, Suriname on behalf of the Cariforum legislatures.

9. Exchange of views with Mr Karel de Gucht, EU Trade Commissioner

The EU Trade Commissioner, Mr De Gucht, made a brief overview of the state of play of the Cariforum-EU EPA. He underlined that the EPA helps increase and diversify trade in goods and services between the EU and the Cariforum states. He reiterated the commitments of all actors to make the EPA work and to be properly implemented in order to make it deliver on its development benefits for the region. He also expressed three areas which are crucial for the success of the EPA, namely: the setting up and smooth running of the institutions to manage the agreement; the setting up of a system to monitor results and impacts of the agreement; and the completion of the first major

tariff reduction in 2011. He commended the institutional progress with respect to the establishment of the Cariforum-EU Joint Council, the TDC, and the Caribbean EPA's Consultative Committee. However, he also pointed out the slow progress with regards to the EPA implementation.

In the following discussion, member also had the opportunity to discuss the ongoing negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda.

Speakers: David Martin (S&D), Rabindre Tewari Parmessar (MP Suriname), Maurice Ponga (EPP), Victorin Lurel (National Assembly, Paris), Gregory Mair (MP Jamaica), Karel De Gucht (Commissioner), Robert Sturdy (ECR), Surujrattan Rambachan (MP Trinidad and Tobago)

10. Any other business

No other businesses were raised.

11. Date and place of next meeting

Next meeting of the EU-Cariforum Joint Parliamentary Committee should take place in the Caribbean region. As next CARIFORUM-EU Council as well as the Trade and Development Committee, bodies to which the Parliamentary Committee can make recommendations, will be held in May 2012 at the latest, it was agreed to try to organise this meeting some time early next year.

The Caribbean delegation will come forward with a more precise proposal for date and place of the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.55.

**ΠΡΗΣΥΤΒΗΗ ΛΗΣΤ/ΛΙΣΤΑ ΔΕ ΑΣΙΣΤΕΝΑ/ΠΡΕΖΕΝΧΝΗ ΛΙΣΤΙΝΑ/ΔΕΛΤΑΓΕΡΛΙΣΤΕ/
 ΑΝΨΕΝΗΕΙΤΣΛΙΣΤΕ/ΚΟΗΑΛΟΛΙΓΑΤΕ ΝΙΜΕΚΙΡΙ/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/ΡΕΚΟΡΔ ΟΥ ΑΤΤΕΝΔΑΝΣΕ/
 ΛΙΣΤΕ ΔΕ ΠΡΕΣΕΝΣΕ/ΕΛΕΝΚΟ ΔΙ ΠΡΕΣΕΝΖΑ/ΑΠΜΕΚΛΕΓΙΜΟ ΡΕΓΙΣΤΡΣ/ΔΑΛΥΒΙΥ ΣΑΡΑΣΑΣ/ΙΕΛΕΝΛΕΤΙ ΙΥ/
 ΡΕΓΙΣΤΡΟ ΤΑ' ΑΤΤΕΝΔΕΝΖΑ/ΠΡΕΣΕΝΤΙΕΛΙΙΣΤ/ΛΙΣΤΑ ΟΒΕΚΝΟΣΧΙ/ΛΙΣΤΑ ΔΕ ΠΡΕΣΕΝÇΑΣ/ΛΙΣΤΑ ΔΕ ΠΡΕΖΕΝΤΑ/
 ΠΡΕΖΕΝΧΝΑ ΛΙΣΤΙΝΑ/ΣΕΖΝΑΜ ΝΑΨΟΧΙΗ/ΛΑΣΝΑΟΛΟΛΙΣΤΑ/ΔΕΛΤΑΓΑΡΛΙΣΤΑ**

Буро/Μεσα/Πρεδседnictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
David Martin (P), (1,2)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Rizek Afif Nazario (1,2), Daniel Caspary (1), Santiago Fisas Ayxela (2), Gregory Mair (1,2), Rabindre Tewari Parmessar (1,2), Maurice Ponga (1,2), Surrujatan Rambachan (1,2), Niccolò Rinaldi (1), Peter Šťastný (1,2), Robert Sturdy (1,2), Lekram Soerdjan (1,2), Mara Thomson (1,2), Oesman Wangsabesari (1,2), Pablo Zalba Bidegain (1), Paweł Zalewski (1)
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavadojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanti/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
George Sabin Cutaș (1,2), Miguel Angel Martínez Martínez (2)

187 (2)
193 (3)
49 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkės punktas/ Napirendi pont/Punt fuq l-aġenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/ Novērotāji/Stebētāji/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/ Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

- (1) 15.6.2011
- (2) 16.6.2011

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina tal-President/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozwanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nōukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Peter Thompson (DG Trade), Ben Nupau (DG Trade)

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Европскá služba pro vnější činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välisteenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew għall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działań Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Acção Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnost/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)

Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Frank Davis (Embassy of Bahamas), Tyrone Brathwaite (Embassy of Barbados), Audrey Joy Grant (Embassy of Belize), Alejandro Gonzáles Pons (Embassy of Dominican Republic), Angela Vigliotta (Embassy of Dominican republic), Shirley Skerritt-Andrew (ECS Embassies), Patrick Gomes (Embassy of Guyana), Raymond Magloire (Embassy of Haiti), Joseph Antoine (Embassy of Haiti), Paula Hippolyte-Bauwens (Embassy of Haiti), Marcia Yvette Gilbert-Roberts (Embassy of Jamaica), Nicola Barker-Murphy (Embassy of Jamaica), Symone Betton (Embassy of Jamaica), Nirmala Gangaram Panday (Embassy of Suriname), Margaret King-Rousseau (Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago), Bruce Lai (Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago), Jerome Joseph (Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago), Tracey Ramsabagh (Embassy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago), Victorin Lurel (Region Guadeloupe (FWI)), Felix Issorat (Region Guadeloupe (FWI))

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoportok titkársága/Segretariat gruppi polițici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	P. Rizza
S&D	A. Rouby, R. Mutafchieva
ALDE	U. Pondelek, Conan D'Arcy
ECR	
Verts/ALE	
GUE/NGL	
EFD	
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantslei/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli

Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Ģenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/ Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC	
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/ Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschussesekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/ Secretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet	
Alberto Rodas, Donatella Pribaz, Helena Halldorf Romero, Ana Cristina Rodrigues, Joanna Karolczyk, Nikolina Vassileva, Valeria Liverini	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Lenka Dubarre	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/
Elnök/President/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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Vice-Chair(wo)man/Vice-Président/Priekšsēdētāja vietnieks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/Víci President/Ondervoorzitter/
Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Présidente/Vicepreşedinte/Podpredseda/Podpredsednik/Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem./Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Μέλος/Member/Membre/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/
Memburu/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membro/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/
Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funçionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman