



2021/2178(INI)

13.1.2022

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

for the Committee on International Trade

on the future of EU-Africa trade relations
(2021/2178(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion: Luke Ming Flanagan

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development calls on the Committee on International Trade, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Recalls that with EU agri-food exports to Africa valued at EUR 17.6 billion and imports from Africa valued at EUR 16.5 billion in 2020, African countries are important destinations for EU exports and the EU remains the biggest export market for agricultural and food products from Africa;
2. Points out that most African countries, in particular LDCs (least developed countries) and African signatories to EPAs (Economic Partnership Agreements), enjoy duty-free and quota-free access to EU markets;
3. Believes that better trade opportunities alone will not guarantee food security in developing countries; notes that LDCs often have difficulties in profiting from preferential access to EU markets due to poor price transmission between international and domestic markets;
4. Underlines the need for sustainable and innovative policies that enable African states to ‘leapfrog’ older and more polluting technologies with the goal of an ecological and social transition to sustainable agri-food practices;
5. Stresses that the EU-Africa relationship must move beyond the donor-recipient relationship; believes that the EU and Africa should cooperate as equals, empowering African nations to attain the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
6. Insists that EPAs are intended to go beyond boosting trade and are meant to enhance African countries’ ability to leverage trade opportunities for sustainable development and poverty reduction;
7. Advocates for stronger policy coherence at EU level in the context of agri-food trade, given the global implications of the common agricultural policy and agricultural trade on the SGDs;
8. Recalls that Africa is home to exceptional biodiversity; expresses concern about the overexploitation of natural resources and its impact on biodiversity, and in particular the increasing pace of deforestation in Africa.