



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 4 July 2012
(OR. en)**

11699/12

**Interinstitutional File:
2008/0251 (AVC)**

**ACP 110
WTO 236
COAFR 181
RELEX 582**

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Interim Agreement establishing a framework for an Economic Partnership Agreement between Eastern and Southern Africa States, on the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, on the other part

COUNCIL DECISION

of ...

**on the conclusion of the Interim Agreement
establishing a framework for an Economic Partnership Agreement
between Eastern and Southern Africa States, on the one part,
and the European Community and its Member States, on the other part**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207 and Article 209(2), in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament¹,

¹ OJ ...

Whereas:

- (1) On 12 June 2002 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations to conclude Economic Partnership Agreements with African, Caribbean and Pacific States.
- (2) Negotiations for an Interim Agreement establishing a framework for an Economic Partnership Agreement between Eastern and Southern Africa States, on the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, on the other part (hereinafter referred to as the 'Interim EPA') were concluded on 28 November 2007 with the Seychelles, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- (3) In accordance with the Council Decision 2012/196/EC of 13 July 2009¹, the Interim EPA was signed with Madagascar, Mauritius, the Seychelles and Zimbabwe on 29 August 2009, subject to its conclusion.
- (4) The Interim EPA has been provisionally applied as from 14 May 2012, between the European Union and Madagascar, Mauritius, the Seychelles and Zimbabwe pending its entry into force.
- (5) The Interim EPA should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

¹ OJ L 111, 24.4.2012, p. 1.

Article 1

The Interim Agreement establishing a framework for an Economic Partnership Agreement between Eastern and Southern Africa States, on the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, on the other part¹, is hereby approved on behalf of the European Union.

Article 2

The President of the Council shall, on behalf of the Union, give the notification provided for in Article 62(3) of the Interim EPA².

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on

Done at

For the Council

The President

¹ The Interim EPA has been published in OJ L 111, 24.4.2012, p. 2 together with the decision on signature.

² The date of entry into force of the Interim EPA will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.