



## 29<sup>th</sup> OACPS-EU Economic & Social Stakeholder Consultations

16-17 December 2021

EESC, Brussels - hybrid/virtual event



### INVITATION

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) organises a hybrid [29th OACPS-EU Economic & Social Stakeholder Consultations](#).

#### Description:

On 3 December 2020, the EU and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) struck a political deal on a new agreement that will succeed the Cotonou Partnership Agreement.

The new partnership agreement will serve as the new legal framework for EU relations with 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

The agreement aims to strengthen the capacity of the EU and the ACP countries to address global challenges together, laying down common principles and covers the following **priority areas**:

- democracy and human rights
- sustainable economic growth and development
- climate change
- human and social development
- peace and security
- migration and mobility

The agreement will include a common foundation at ACP level combined with three regional protocols for Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific with a focus on the regions' specific needs.

Organised civil society in both the EU and the ACP is expecting to play a role in the new EU-OACPS Partnership, which will be the legal framework for EU relations with 79 African Caribbean and Pacific countries.

**Hosted from Brussels, the specific objectives of the 29th OACPS-EU Economic & Social Stakeholder Consultations will be:**

- to identify the role of civil society and the social partners in the institutional framework mentioned above, i.e. the global strategic protocol and the regional protocols (EU-Africa, EU-Caribbean and EU-Pacific);
- to identify how civil society, including the social partners, can play an independent and strong role in the new configuration;
- to examine topics of particular relevance for the:
  - Africa-EU protocol;
  - Caribbean-EU protocol;
  - Pacific-EU protocol.

**Participants:**

- Economic & social stakeholders from the ACP & EU / Civil Society Organisations (NGOs, academia, think tanks, etc.),
- Institutions: representatives of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, the presidency of the Council of the EU, the European Commission, the Secretariat of the ACP Group of States, the economic and social councils of ACP, diplomatic missions.

**Registration: If you wish to register, please [click here](#).**

**Programme, updates and further info:**

The programme will be updated regularly [here](#).

[Web-streaming:](#) Live event will begin on 16 December at 9:30 [UTC+1](#).

Connection links for active participants: question and answers sessions live.

[16 December – click here](#) (9-9:30 connection tests, 9:30 [UTC+1](#) start of the event)

[17 December – click here](#) (8-8:30 connection tests, 8:30 [UTC+1](#) start of the event 2<sup>nd</sup> day)

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