

Why are EPAs being negotiated?

For the last 30 years the EU and ACP have had a series of five-year agreements that set the framework for their political and economic relationship. Under these agreements the EU have been giving ACP countries preferential access to their markets on the goods they export. But this preferential treatment has been declared incompatible with the rules of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

The EU and the ACP were granted a waiver in 2001 which expired at the end of 2007. EPAs are the new trade deals to replace the old arrangements

- [Back to Index](#)
- [Next: How many countries signed EPAs in December 2007?](#)