

Groupe des Etats d'Afrique  
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique  
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and  
Pacific Group of States  
(ACP Group)

Avenue Georges Henri 451  
1200 Bruxelles

Téléphone : +32-2-743 06 00  
Fax : +32-2-735 55 73 - +32-2-732 94 70  
E-mail : [info@acp.int](mailto:info@acp.int)  
Website : [www.acp.int](http://www.acp.int)

## **ACP welcomes European Parliament vote in favour of extending EU sugar production quotas to 2020**

The ACP Sugar Group welcomes the vote on 13 March 2013 by the European Parliament in support of Comagri's proposal for the continuation of the current beet sugar sugar quota provisions until 30 September 2020.

The extension of sugar quotas will help to ensure fair and reasonably remunerative EU sugar market prices to ACP/LDC exporters as envisaged in the Economic Partnership Agreements and the Everything But Arms Initiative which underpin the trade and development objectives agreed between the EU and its partners. The existence of a stable and predictable market for a further five years is crucial to allow industries to continue the modernization diversification and efficiency improvements in which ACP/LDC countries have already committed considerable funds with the welcome supplementary finance from the EU's Accompanying Measures financial support programme.

The Chairman of the ACP Sugar Subcommittee H.E. Ambassador Gomes, Ambassador of Guyana, said *"The vote by the European Parliament is an important step in avoiding a premature destabilisation of the EU sugar market. However this welcome action will need to be supported by EU Member States when Ministers consider the Sugar Regime in Council. We are therefore making a plea once again to the Member States to demonstrate coherence in EU's trade and development policies and thus to fully support the European Parliament in avoiding any further ACP/LDC preference erosion and hence in providing the basis for our industries to complete our plans for meeting the challenges of future market liberalisation."*

### **Brussels**