

Central Africa EPA (Cameroon)

Council Decision of 20 November 2008 on the signature and provisional application of the interim agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Central Africa Party, of the other part ([OJ L 57, 28.02.2009](#))

Article 26 - Special provisions on administrative cooperation

1. The Parties agree that administrative cooperation is essential for the implementation and control of the preferential treatment granted under this Title and underline their commitment to tackle irregularities and fraud in customs and related matters.
2. Where one party obtains proof, based on objective information, of a failure to provide administrative cooperation and/or of irregularities or fraud, the Party concerned may temporarily suspend the preferential treatment of the product(s) concerned in accordance with this Article.
3. For the purposes of this Article, a failure to provide administrative cooperation shall be defined, *inter alia*, as:
 - (a) a recurrent failure to respect the obligation to verify the originating status of the product(s) concerned;
 - (b) a repeated refusal or undue delay in carrying out and/or communicating the results of subsequent verification of the proof of origin;
 - (c) a repeated refusal or undue delay in granting authorisation to conduct a cooperation mission to verify the authenticity of documents or accuracy of information relevant to the granting of the preferential treatment in question.
4. The application of a temporary suspension shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) The Party which obtains proof, based on objective information, of a failure to provide administrative cooperation and/or of irregularities or fraud shall without undue delay notify the EPA Committee of this proof together with the objective information and enter into consultations within the EPA Committee with a view to reaching a solution acceptable to both Parties, on the basis of all relevant information and objective findings.
 - (b) Where the Parties have entered into consultations in the EPA Committee as provided for above and have not been able to agree on an acceptable solution within three months of notification, the Party concerned may temporarily suspend the preferential treatment of the product(s) concerned. A temporary suspension shall be notified to the EPA Committee without undue delay.
 - (c) Temporary suspensions under this Article shall be limited to that necessary to protect the financial interests of the Party concerned. They shall not exceed a period of six months, which may be renewed. The EPA Committee shall be notified of temporary suspensions immediately after their adoption. Such suspensions shall be the subject of periodic consultations within the EPA Committee, particularly with a view to their termination as soon as the conditions for their application no longer exist.
5. At the same time as the notification of the EPA Committee provided for in paragraph 4(a) of this Article, the Party concerned shall publish a notice to importers in its Official Journal or Gazette. This notice to importers shall indicate that, for the product concerned, proof has been obtained, based on objective information, of a failure to provide administrative cooperation and/or of irregularities or fraud.