



November 13, 2023

## **URGENT COMMUNICATION RE: ACP-EU Treaty Signing November 15, 2023**

Dear Excellency,

This memo is to inform Your Excellency of the dire consequences for your country and your children and families if your government signs the ACP-EU treaty.

The EU has deceptively turned this trade and economic treaty into a human rights, sexual and social engineering treaty that will use the force of treaty law to impose the EU's sexual and social "values" on ACP countries.

The analyses in the links below in this urgent memo provide ample evidence to not commit to this treaty in its current form.

**Link to the General ACP-EU treaty text with Family Watch International's harm analysis (this part of the treaty applies to all ACP and EU countries):**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MPXJZhMPsTQ81FT6F77ef2lyJQdIujALLDT86-voCv0/edit?usp=sharing>

**Link to the African Protocol text with FWI harm analysis:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dCY-WdBtSg0mpTti60M1W38AUBX0n2TQRw8zlwXgHo/edit?usp=sharing>

**Link to the Pacific Protocol text with FWI's harm analysis:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sHgnTu3o0oUn8XzodhKP3ROWliDT4TZNCQ9a7DtNYdo/edit?usp=sharing>

**Link to the Caribbean Protocol text with FWI's harm analysis:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dc1tC-SScd5CsCa80B01DIAqzQ0WaNSEe1c2pJhozME/edit?usp=sharing>

### **Ten critical questions the European Union needs to answer:**

1. **Why are "human rights" the first objective mentioned for the treaty and established as one of only three "essential" elements of the treaty, thus making reservations on such inadmissible? Why are there over 100 references to "human rights" without defining them? It should be noted that at the Joint Parliamentary Assembly held last year in Maputo, when Uganda asked the EU whether "human rights" provisions in the**

treaty encompass homosexuality, the EU responded that every human right for every person will be encompassed by the treaty, meaning yes.

2. **Why are ACP countries required to implement region-specific documents in this binding treaty, and will the reservations that ACP countries put on those documents still be valid in this treaty?** Many of these documents require legalizing abortion, prostitution, sodomy and radical sexuality education for children without parental consent and much more. This treaty elevates multiple highly controversial and previously non-binding documents into binding treaty commitments with the EU.
3. **Since the treaty elevates the non-binding Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing) and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) into binding treaty obligations, will country reservations on those treaties still be valid, and will the term “sexuality,” which appears multiple times be defined using the World Health Organization’s definition, which includes “eroticism,” sexual “pleasure,” “fantasies,” “desires,” “sexual orientation” and “gender identity?”** Where is the list of review conference “outcome” documents of ICPD and Beijing required to be implemented by ACP countries? Will the human rights 20-year review of ICPD titled “ICPD Beyond 2014: International Conference on Human Rights” be included on that list with its provisions on “sexual and reproductive rights,” “sexual and reproductive health and rights,” “sexual orientation and gender identity,” transgender issues, abortion and comprehensive sexuality education? (Note: A number of countries have not ratified these region-specific documents because they are so controversial.)
4. **Why would we ever allow the EU to fund, implement and fulfil “sexual and reproductive health and rights” in our country,** a term the EU parliament has defined as encompassing abortion, comprehensive sexuality education, and respect for sexual and gender diversity (i.e., LGBT rights)?
5. **Why is there is no treaty provision that allows for reservations or declarations on controversial elements** or statements of explanation in contravention of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties?
6. **Why would our country agree to vote along with the EU in international meetings when traditionally our positions on sexual and social issues are the polar opposite of the EU’s?** The EU openly admits its goal to have a monopoly of UN votes through this treaty (79 ACP countries + 27 EU countries = 106 countries = a majority of UN Member States).
7. **Why would we ever agree to allow the EU to require the implementation of “sexual and reproductive health services” and sexual education for our children without any provision for parental consent?** This violates multiple binding treaty provisions requiring African states to protect the rights of parents to guide the education,

upbringing, and moral values of their children. Parents are not even mentioned in this regard.

- 8. Why would we ever agree to any binding document which references the UN's radical "International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education?"** This UNESCO guidance claims that children have a right to sex and should be taught about sexual pleasure, homophobia, transphobia and much more. In some situations, this information has already been smuggled into our schools via the textbook publishers.
- 9. Is our government aware that the Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI), the EU's funding mechanism for the treaty, will allow for the EU to work directly with our Ministries of Education, Health and Gender to influence our young people to be ideologically shifted away from the values we hold dear as a country?**
- 10. Is our government aware that NDICI makes billions in EU foreign aid contingent on adherence to EU "values" on SRHR and sexuality as specified by this designated EU funding mechanism for the treaty?**

In conclusion, this treaty is an EU power grab and an end run around the UN and UNHRC system, the provisions of which would not be accepted in open negotiations and were deceptively slipped into this treaty.

Your Excellency, we plead with you, at a minimum, to insist that the treaty be amended before signing to include the following provisions:

### **Proposed Treaty Amendment**

*Nothing in this treaty shall be interpreted to advance, create or enforce any obligations on ACP states with regard to abortion, homosexuality or sexual orientation, transgenderism or gender identity, sexual rights, sexuality, sexual, or sex education for children. No funding under this treaty shall be transmitted to UN entities, NGOs or any foreign entities or actors for advancing any of the above.*

Your Excellency, even this proposed amendment cannot solve all the problems in the treaty such as the supremacy clause and the requirement to have joint positions in international fora such as the United Nations creating a super bloc of over 105 UN Member States required to advance the controversial issues in this treaty.

Therefore, we beseech Your Excellency to request your Attorney General, just as Namibia has done, to scrutinize this treaty and identify all provisions which conflict with our national laws and with the majority of your people's religious and cultural values.

It is with the best interest of your beloved country and people in mind that we plead with Your Excellency NOT to sign this treaty. There are other ways for you to interact with the EU in more positive and productive ways.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Slater".

Sharon Slater  
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