

TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA – FIRST SESSION (2012)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE PAPER NO. 45

Member Giving Notice: **Minister of Foreign Affairs**

MOTION

**GUYANA’S RATIFICATION OF THE CARIFORUM-EUROPEAN UNION
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (EPA)**

WHEREAS the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement (the Cotonou Partnership Agreement) signed in June 2000 between the ACP Group of States of the one part and the European Union (EU) Member States of the other part, required the two sides to negotiate Regional WTO-compatible trade agreements to replace the non-reciprocal preferential trade arrangements under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, with effect from January 1, 2008;

AND WHEREAS the CARIFORUM States of the one part (CARIFORUM) and the European Union and its Member States of the other part (EU), pursuant to the provisions of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, negotiated the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (the Agreement) between April, 2004 and December, 2007;

AND WHEREAS the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, a CARIFORUM Member State and a Party to the Agreement, signed onto the Agreement on October 20, 2008;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana, in accordance with Article 243 of the Agreement, formally notified the General Secretariat of the EU Council on October 22, 2008 of its provisional application of the Agreement, pending entry into force;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana, pursuant to its provisional application of the Agreement, implemented the agreed Schedule of Tariff Liberalization with effect from January, 2011, following its presentation to the National Assembly in January, 2011;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana is desirous of taking the further step to ratify the Agreement, pursuant to its laws and in accordance with the aforementioned Article 243,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly hereby agrees for the General Secretariat of the European Union Council being informed of Guyana's intention to ratify the Agreement and for Guyana to formally ratify the said agreement.

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