

Important dates with regard to the Community's policy of cooperation (1957-1977)

Caption: Table tracing the development of the cooperation policy followed by the European Economic Community (EEC) between the entry into force of the Treaties of Rome and June 1977.

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Important dates with regard to the Community's policy of cooperation (1957-1977)

25.03.1957	Treaty of Rome establishing the EEC: the six signatory States decide that the overseas countries linked to them should be associated to the development of the Community. In particular, they are to benefit from the EDF (European Development Fund).
20.07.1963	In Yaoundé the first association agreement is signed between the Community and 18 independent African States, the AASM. In particular, they are to benefit from EDF subsidies and loans from the EIB.
01.07.1968	The first Community food aid programme (for cereals) comes into being.
29.07.1969	In Yaoundé the EEC-AASM association agreement is renewed for another five years.
24.09.1969	The Arusha Convention is signed between the Community and the three States of the East African Community (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania).
01.07.1971	The Generalised System of Preferences of the European Community enters into force.
27.07.1971	The Commission submits a 'Communication on a Community development cooperation policy' to the Council of Ministers.
22.01.1972	The United Kingdom signs the Treaty of Accession to the Community, thus opening the prospect of closer relations between the developing countries of the Commonwealth and the EEC.
20.10.1972	Paris Summit: the Heads of State or Government instruct the Community to draw up a 'comprehensive development cooperation policy'.
25.07.1973	Negotiations begin in Brussels between the Community and the African, Caribbean and Pacific States.
06.03.1974	Commission memorandum concerning a comprehensive food aid policy.
20.03.1974	Commission proposal to create a 3 billion US dollar 'emergency fund' in favour of the developing countries most affected by the crisis.
31.07.1974	First meeting in the Euro-Arab dialogue.
05.11.1974	Publication by the Commission of the document entitled 'Development aid: a panorama of future Community action'.
26.02.1975	The Lomé Convention is signed between the 'Nine' and 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific independent States.
01.07.1975	The EEC-Israel Agreement enters into force.
04.1976	Signing of the EEC-Algeria (Algiers, 26.04.1976), EEC-Morocco (Rabat, 27.04.1976) and EEC-Tunisia (Tunis, 25.04.1976) agreements.
14.-15.07.1976	First meeting in Brussels of the EEC-ACP Council of Ministers.

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17.12.1976	First financing operations in the 'non-associated' developing countries: India, Bangladesh, Indonesia.
18.01.1977	Signing in Brussels of the EEC-Egypt, EEC-Jordan, EEC-Syria cooperation agreements.
08.02.1977	Signing in Brussels of the financial protocol complementing the EEC-Israel Agreement of 1975.
03.05.1977	Signing in Brussels of the EEC-Lebanon cooperation agreement.
01.06.1977	Against the background of North-South dialogue in Paris, a 1 billion US dollar special action programme is adopted in favour of the poorest developing countries. The EEC contributes 385 million US dollars to it.