# Council Decision (EU) 2020/409 of 17 February 2020 on the accession of Solomon Islands to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part

## COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/409

## of 17 February 2020

## on the accession of Solomon Islands to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(3) and the first subparagraph of Article 207(4), in conjunction with point (a)(v) of the second subparagraph of Article 218(6) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament[(1)],

Whereas:

(1) On 12 June 2002, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations for Economic Partnership Agreements with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States.

(2) The Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part[(2)] (the 'Interim Partnership Agreement'), which establishes a framework for an Economic Partnership Agreement, was signed in London on 30 July 2009. The Interim Partnership Agreement has been provisionally applied by Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Samoa since 20 December 2009, 28 July 2014 and 31 December 2018, respectively.

(3) Article 80 of the Interim Partnership Agreement lays down the provisions regarding the accession of other Pacific Island States.

(4) On 4 June 2018, Solomon Islands submitted an accession request together with a market access offer to the Council.

(5) The Commission has assessed Solomon Islands' offer and, after amendments, found it acceptable. Accordingly, the Commission concluded negotiations with Solomon Islands on 23 October 2018.

(6) In accordance with Article 76(3) of the Interim Partnership Agreement, the Union and Solomon Islands are to provisionally apply the Interim Partnership Agreement 10 days after notifying each other in writing of the completion of the procedures necessary for that purpose.

**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Decision (EU) 2020/409. (See end of Document for details)*

(7) The accession of Solomon Islands to the Interim Partnership Agreement should be approved on behalf of the Union, subject to Solomon Islands' deposit of the act of accession pursuant to Article 80(2) thereof,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

1 The accession of Solomon Islands to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part (the 'Interim Partnership Agreement'), is hereby approved on behalf of the Union, subject to Solomon Islands' deposit of the act of accession pursuant to Article 80(2) thereof.

2 The President of the Council shall, on behalf of the Union, notify the other Contracting Parties to the Interim Partnership Agreement and Solomon Islands of the approval, by the Union, of the accession of Solomon Islands to the Interim Partnership Agreement.

3 The text of the market access offer of Solomon Islands is attached to this Decision.

*Article 2*

1 For the purposes of provisionally applying the Interim Partnership Agreement between the Union and Solomon Islands, the President of the Council shall, on behalf of the Union, give the notification referred to in Article 76(3) of the Interim Partnership Agreement.

2 The Union and Solomon Islands shall provisionally apply the Interim Partnership Agreement 10 days after they have notified each other in writing of the completion of the procedures necessary for that purpose in accordance with paragraph 1.

*Article 3*

The approval of the accession of Solomon Islands to the Interim Partnership Agreement shall not be construed as conferring rights or imposing obligations which can be directly invoked before Union or Member State courts or tribunals.

*Article 4*

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 17 February 2020.

*For the Council*

*The President*

J. BORRELL FONTELLES

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Decision (EU) 2020/409. (See end of Document for details)*

ANNEX

## TARIFF LIBERALISATION SCHEDULES FOR SOLOMON ISLANDS

**Solomon Islands**

| | | ‘preparatory period’ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Basket** | **Base Rate** | **Base year** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** | **16** | **17** | **18** |
| A | 0,0 % | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(6) | 5,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(6) | 10,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(15) | 5,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 3,0 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(15) | 10,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 6,0 | 6,0 | 6,0 | 6,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(15) | 15,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(15) | 20,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(15) | specific duties[a] | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 60,0 | 60,0 | 60,0 | 60,0 | 30,0 | 30,0 | 30,0 | 30,0 | 30,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| B(18) | 5,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 4,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 2,0 | 0,0 |
| B(18) | 10,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 8,0 | 8,0 | 8,0 | 8,0 | 6,0 | 6,0 | 6,0 | 6,0 | 6,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 4,0 | 0,0 |
| B(18) | 15,0 % | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 13,0 | 13,0 | 13,0 | 13,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 10,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 0,0 |
| B(18) | specific duties[a] | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | BR | 90,0 | 90,0 | 90,0 | 90,0 | 60,0 | 60,0 | 60,0 | 60,0 | 60,0 | 30,0 | 30,0 | 30,0 | 0,0 |
| E (excl) | any | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U | U |

**a** Rates for specific duties are shown as a percentage of the base rate.

U = unbound
BR = Base Rate

| **Basket** | **Tariff Lines** | **% of total lines** |
|---|---|---|
| A | 25 | 0,45 % |
| B(6) | 708 | 12,86 % |
| B(15) | 2 299 | 41,76 % |
| B(18) | 1 955 | 35,51 % |
| E | 518 | 9,41 % |

| **HS6 Code** | **HS6 Description** | **HS8 Code** | **HS8 Description** | **last two digits** | **number of splits** | **SI MFN rates** | **count lines** | **EU exports to SI, avg 2014-2016 (mln EUR)** | **iEPA Solomon Islands Revised and** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Decision (EU) 2020/409. (See end of Document for details)*

| | | | | | | | | | **Final offer** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0101 21 | Pure-bred breeding animals | 0101 21 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |
| 0101 29 | Other | 0101 29 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |
| 0101 30 | Asses | 0101 30 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |
| 0101 90 | Other | 0101 90 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |
| 0102 21 | Pure-bred breeding animals | 0102 21 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0102 29 | Other | 0102 29 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0102 31 | Pure-bred breeding animals | 0102 31 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0102 39 | Other | 0102 39 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0102 90 | Other | 0102 90 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0103 10 | Pure-bred breeding animals | 0103 10 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0103 91 | Weighing less than 50 kg | 0103 91 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0103 92 | Weighing 50 kg or more | 0103 92 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0104 10 | Sheep | 0104 10 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0104 20 | Goats | 0104 20 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0105 11 | Fowls of the species | 0105 11 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Gallus domesticus* | | | | | | | | |
| 0105 12 | Turkeys | 0105 12 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0105 13 | Ducks | 0105 13 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0105 14 | Geese | 0105 14 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0105 15 | Guinea fowls | 0105 15 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0105 94 | Fowls of the species *Gallus domesticus* | 0105 94 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0105 99 | Other | 0105 99 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(15) |
| 0106 11 | Primates | 0106 11 00 | | 00 | 1 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |
| 0106 12 | Whales, dolphins and porpoises (mammals of the order Cetacea); manatees and dugongs (mammals of the order Sirenia); seals, sea lions and walruses (mammals of the suborder Pinnipedia) | 0106 12 10 | Dolphins and porpoises | 10 | 2 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |
| 0106 12 | Whales, dolphins and porpoises (mammals | 0106 12 90 | Other | 90 | 2 | 5,0 % | 1 | — | B(6) |