**Tariff preference: Economic Partnership Agreement between EU - CARIFORUM States**

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### 1. Background/Introduction

The EC has concluded a new reciprocal preferential trade (Economic Partnership Agreement – EPA), with the Cariforum (Carribbean) States which is applicable on a provisional basis from 29 December 2008.

The Signatory **CARIFORUM States** are:

Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti*, Jamaica, St Christopher and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago

* Haiti

Although Haiti is included in the above list of CARIFORUM States, it has not yet signed the EPA, but it is expected to in the near future. Therefore, until such a time, Haiti will continue to benefit from the preferential trade arrangements laid down in the Market Access Regulation (MAR) for the ACP States (Customs [JCCC] Information Paper (07)56). Should Haiti not sign the EPA, it will be deleted from the list of beneficiaries of the MAR and the only benefit which will potentially be available will be under the Generalised System of Preference (GSP).

### 2. Further information

Further information is available in the attached [Annex](#) which is approximately 24 pages long.
3. Contact

For queries on this Custom Information Paper please contact

Yvette James  
HM Revenue & Customs  
Customs and International, Duty Liability  
10th Floor South East  
Alexander House  
21 Victoria Avenue  
Southend-on-Sea  
SS99 1AA

Tel: 01702 367721  
Fax: 01702 367342  
Email: Yvette James

Queries on other subjects should be addressed to the National Advice Centre as detailed below.

Issued on the 12 February 2009 by the JCCC Secretary, HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), Customs & International Directorate.

If you have a question about the content of this paper please use the details provided in the ‘Contacts’ section. For general HMRC queries speak to the National Advice Service on Tel 0845 010 9000.

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