



REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BRUSSELS PROGRAMME OF ACTION
IN FAVOR OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
FOR THE 2001-2010 DECADE**

Praia, December 2005

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Context

Cape Verde became independent in July 1975, breaking its colonial ties with Portugal. The country's socio-economic situation and low level of development represented great challenges at the time, for both the national authorities and the international community.

Cape Verde entered the group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in 1977, when it started to benefit from funding under highly favorable conditions, both in terms of interest payments and reimbursement of capital granted by International Financial Institutions for development. In addition, it benefited from a large volume of grants from bilateral donors that allowed for important investments in all development sectors.

In the course of the second Plan of Action for the LDCs, covering the decade of the nineties in the past century, and continuing with the current Brussels Programme of Action (BPOA) for the 2001-2010 decade, important reforms were carried out, namely in the financial and monetary sectors, in the state fiscal and administrative system, in promoting foreign investment and exports, and in reorganizing the state enterprise sector and its privatization.

Within the framework of the BPOA, Cape Verde defined a Vision up to 2010 – i.e. a country open to the outside, with a competitive service-based economy, supported by highly qualified human resources - development that covers every one of the islands, with a focus on aesthetics and the environment. A democratic society, open and respectful of human rights - and a strategy to ensure macroeconomic balances, to develop tourism, to modernize transport services, to accelerate the growth of light industry for exports, training human resources, protection of the environment, reinforcement of Public Administration and elimination of extreme poverty - that would allow for holistic development of the country.

On the basis of these development achievements and taking into consideration the criteria defined for the LDCs, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted Resolution 59/210, recommending the graduation of Cape Verde from the group of LDC countries.

Given that Cape Verde's graduation is scheduled to start in 2008, the country is currently preparing, in collaboration with its development partners, a strategy for a smooth transition, aimed at assuring that graduation does not result in a reversal of the development process, but rather, that it allows for the country to achieve sustainability of its progress towards development.

It is in this context of graduation from the LDCs that Cape Verde presents its brief report on implementation of the BPOA for the LDCs for the 2001-2010 decade, following the format defined by the United Nations. The measures and activities developed with the aim of achieving the planned objectives/commitments are presented, whenever possible, with appropriate latest indicators.

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N°	Objectives	Policies and measures adopted, with the aim to achieving the objectives	Comments (obstacles, constraints and future actions)	Progress		
				1990	2001	2004
Commitment 1 - To encourage a political framework that privileges the human dimension						
1	To achieve a GDP growth rate of 7% per year	Although GDP growth during the past years is considered satisfactory (about 5.5% in 2004 and a forecast of 6.5% for 2005), the established goal of 7% will be reached only in 2007, according to macro-economic projections. A Strategic Growth and Poverty Reduction Document (DECRP/PRSP) was elaborated in 2004 to take into account the high level of poverty in Cape Verde. The growth strategy adopted is based on private sector investment (mostly foreign) and integrating Cape Verde in the global economy. Cape Verde went through a period of large public sector investments, mostly in road and airport infrastructures. The tertiary sector became dominant in productive areas, with strong growth in the tourism, transport and the banking sub-sectors. The tax policy was also revised by the introduction of value added tax.	Growth will only be reached under a stable macroeconomic context. This growth will be induced mostly by private and public investments and by exports. Sectors expected to be the most dynamic are the hotel sub-sector, industry and energy, fisheries and construction. In the monetary sector, preservation of price stability and the credibility of the exchange rate system will be fundamental, as well as reinforcement of reserves aimed at increasing credit to the private sector.	5.2%	6.1%	5.5%
2	To raise the level of investment by 25% of the GDP per year	Taking into account the strategy defined for attracting investment, mostly foreign investment, the Cape Verde Investment Agency was created in 2004. Its functions are, among others, (i) actively to promote the creation of appropriate conditions and support to achieve investment projects, both from national and foreign sources, (ii) promotion of development of the national enterprise system and, (iii) the direct or indirect support to strengthening and modernizing the enterprise structure of the country, improving competitiveness and productivity of the micro, small and medium size enterprises. Gross Domestic Investment is expected to reach about 24.2% of GDP in 2005 and about 27.5% in 2007, and Gross Private Investment about 12.8% of the GDP in 2005 and 15.5% in			19%	24.2% ¹

¹ Previsão para 2005

		2007. Emphasis has been placed on strong public investment in infrastructure and strong private investment in the tourism sector, in which it is estimated that about 70 million Euros were invested between 2001 and 2004.			
3	To halve by 2015 the number of people living in extreme poverty	Elaboration of the Strategic Growth and Poverty Reduction Document (DECRP), which reinforces the dimension of the combat against poverty as an integral part of the growth process and clarifies the role of the State and the private sector. The role of the private sector as th dynamo for growth, indicates a governance system that allows for the creation of an enabling environment for the development and the rational, efficient and transparent utilization of public goods, at the same time that it creates conditions that favor private investment. A National Program to Combat Poverty as well as integrated micro-credit programmes have been implemented in past years, with important social investments in the poorest zones and regions of the country.	A strong reduction in the incidence of absolute poverty, which declined from 49% in 1988-1989 to 37% in 2001-2002, that is a reduction of 12 percentile points in a 13-year period, or about 0.92 per year.		20% ²
4	To halve by 2015 the number of people who suffer from hunger	The poverty reduction policies have as primary objective the reduction of absolute poverty, that is, to meet the most essential needs of the poorest. The objective of the strategy to combat poverty is based on focus policies such as: growth and macroeconomic stability; decentralization; employment; development of the agricultural sector; support to the productive sectors to achieve greater multiplying effects on job creation and provision of more competitive advantages; and redistribution of wealth and social protection. The Programme of Minimum Social Pension for the most vulnerable, which includes currently about 7,500 people receiving about 27 Euros/month, and the FAIMO Pension Programme, including about 11,400 people who receive 28.5 Euros/month, are integrated in these policies	The trend in the reduction of absolute poverty indicates that, if GDP continues to grow at the rates of the past decade, the incidence of absolute poverty will halve in relation to the values verified in 1988/1989, as stipulated in the Millennium Development Goals. In 2001-2002, 37% of the total population were considered poor, most of them (62%) coming from rural areas. About 54% of the poor are considered to be very poor, representing about 20% of the total population.		

² This is the percentage of the population considered very poor (extreme poverty), whose income is less than 261Euros/year.

Commitment 2 - Good Governance at the national and international levels

		<p>Cape Verde is a democratic country, with free, transparent and regular elections (Presidential, Legislative and Municipal) since 1991. The last elections took place in 2001 (Presidential and Legislative) and 2004 (Municipal). Opportunities for both sexes are practically the same. In all spheres of power (Parliament, Government, Municipalities, Justice, Administration), women have important positions. At the end of 2003 women represented 16.3% of members in the decision-making entities of the country. Policies adopted favor free organization of the working class, with unions functioning fully and appropriately. Press freedom is recognized by the major international watchdog organizations. Corruption, to the extent that it exists, is negligible. As far as fiscal and financial reform measures are concerned, implementation of the CFAA (Country Finance Accountability Assessment) programme with the financial support of the Netherlands is noteworthy. Expenditures in the Armed Forces sector are negligible, representing on average under 2% of State global budget.</p>	<p>Actions aimed at consolidation of good governance will be taken, namely in: Public Administration reform (modernization of Human Resources management, training and utilization of information and communication technologies); reinforcement of the judicial system; reform of the State Financial management system (implementation of the CFAA and CPAR action plans, and reform of the budgetary system); decentralization (improvement and consolidation of the local power). Within the framework of the democratic process, Cape Verde will hold General Legislative Elections on January 22nd 2006 and Presidential Elections on February 12th 2006</p>			
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Commitment 3 - Reinforcement of the Human and Institutional Capacities

5	<p>To provide, as rapidly as possible and by 2015, primary health care to all individuals</p>	<p>In order for this objective to be reached, there is a need for reorganization of the health system based on human resources training, both in country and abroad, and in health infrastructure construction. Thus, the Health Centers of Porto Novo, Santa Cruz and Tarrafal de São Nicolau have been completed; the Health Center of Vila de Ribeira Brava has been rehabilitated and equipped. The surgical wing, the emergency wing, the diagnosis center, the new Surgical wing, the Radiology service, the Laboratory of Clinical Analyses and the Infirmary for the surgical specialties have been concluded at the Dr. Agostinho Neto Hospital in the city of Praia, the biggest hospital in the country. Implementation of the North</p>	<p>Conclusion of the infra-structure works and continuation of human resources training.</p>			
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		Santiago Health Project was started, which foresees training, management, and construction of Health related infrastructures (construction of the Calheta Health Center, transformation of 4 USB in health centers - Achada Lém, Chã de Tanque, Achada Monte e Chã de Junco - construction of 2 health centers in Chão Bom e Telhal and the North Santiago Regional Hospital). Construction of four Health Centers was started within the framework of the City of Praia Urban Health project.				
6	To make available safe family planning methods as well as efficient and acceptable contraceptive methods	Implementation of the Reproductive Health and Family Planning Programme, which consists of promoting equality in the demand for reproductive health services, namely through expansion of the availability of Reproductive Health services to guarantee risk-free maternity, utilization of contraceptive methods, prevention of the DST, treatment of complications resulting from induced abortions and integration of diagnosis of genital neoplasias services for women and men in regional hospitals. Contraceptives (pills and condoms) are distributed free of charge in family planning centers.				
7	To ensure access and completion of a full course in quality primary education for all school age children by 2015	<p>With the aim of reaching this objective, the following programmes were formulated: expansion, promotion of equity and improvement of Pre-school Education; improvement of the quality of Basic Education; Consolidation of school social action. The following measures were adopted in the 2001 – 2004 period:</p> <p>At the pre-school level: a) Reinforcement of pedagogic training for kindergartens at the local level; b) Training and recycling of child instructors; c) Gradual expansion of school canteens to the pre-schools.</p> <p>At the Basic Education (BE) level : a) Reduction in the percentage of teachers without training from 28% to 22%; b) Placing of trained teachers in isolated zones; c)</p>	<p>Constraints: At the pre-school level: a) Accentuated social and geographic inequalities ; b) unsatisfactory level of staff qualification and didactic materials; c) Inadequate integration and poor efficiency of the system; d) Poor articulation with basic education and consequent implications in the teaching-learning process.</p> <p>At the Basic Education (BE) level : a) Existence of high repetition rates at the second year of 1st BE phase ; b) Unequal geographic distribution of trained teachers; c) Deficient functioning</p>			95% ³

³ This relates to 2002.

		<p>Triplication of trainees in teacher training schools; d) Implementation of alternate teacher training models; e) Reprinting of Portuguese Language, Mathematics and Integrated Sciences manuals; f) Improvement in the quality of Mathematics and Portuguese Language teaching through the use of radio (project IRI-CV); g) Revision of quotas per municipality for training of teachers at the BE level to reduce inequalities; h) Prioritization of municipalities, zones and social groups for accomplishment of education for all objectives ; i) Improvement in the physical conditions of schools and expansion of the network (construction and repairing of schools, installation of sanitary equipment and offices for managers); j) Programming and construction of new BE schools to eliminate rented rooms and the triple use of the same spaces; k) Elaboration of studies and research in the quality of education, training of teachers and management of the learning processes; l) Consolidation of the socio-educative support to disfavored children; m) Capacity building of technicians and teachers in matters related to self-evaluation of schools and elaboration of school development plans.</p>	<p>of schools and educative poles; d) Poor participation of parents and those responsible for education in school management and educative processes.</p> <p>Future actions: At the pre-school education level: a) Construction of kindergartens through partnerships with city councils, NGOs and other public State institutions; b) Creation and implementation of an interinstitutional and intersectorial coordination structure; c) Sensitization campaigns for families with access to social communication.</p> <p>At the Basic Education (BE) level: a) Reinforcement of teacher training activities; b) Revision of programmes and school manuals for the BE curricular areas; c) Improvement of the internal effectiveness of the education system through reduction of the repetition and school drop-out rates; d) Revision of the pedagogic chart (pole regions and BE satellite schools ; e) Increasing the compulsory school leaving age level to the 1st cycle of secondary education.</p>			
8	To achieve literacy of 50% of adults by 2015, especially women, and to facilitate access of adults to secondary education	<p>A Literacy and Adult Education (LAE) Programme has been developed to achieve this goal. It is implemented through : a) Concentration of LAE activities in the poorest communities; b) Reinforcement of the professional training component in adult education activities ; c) New strategies for human resources mobilization through utilization of civic volunteers for relaunching the LAE Programme; d) Increased supply of elementary</p>	<p>Constraints: - Insufficient training of animators; - Poor articulation between the different actors at community animation level ; - Weak financial conditions for mobile library activities.</p> <p>Future actions: - Reformulation and update of curricula,</p>		74.8% ⁴	

⁴ This refers to the literacy rate, in 2000, among youth aged between 14 and 25. As a consequence, the illiteracy rate in that age group was 25.2%.

		professional distance training ; e) Reinforcement of training of animators in adult education; f) Linkage of literacy with professional training programmes to be able to offer better perspectives for integrating trainees in the job market; g) Development of the recurrent education system aimed at drop-out children and prevention of reversal to illiteracy; h) Launching of new LAE experiences (literacy characterized by solidarity; i) Mobilization of new partners for funding LAE activities.	manuals and pedagogic practices in adult and youth education, strengthening Capeverdean cultural values of good social cohesion; - Information, education and communication actions through mobile libraries; - Basic professional training actions for adults, with focus on post-literacy trainees through promotion of income generating micro credit projects.			
9	To eliminate by 2005 the disparity between sexes in access to primary and secondary education and to obtain equality by 2015.	Within this framework, the following has been done: a survey of the sexist stereotypes in manuals, aimed at their elimination in the revision of the initial curricula; distribution of school uniforms to girls, with support of UNICEF, aimed at improving the rate of girl schooling; and promotion, in partnership with UNFPA, of research/action on early pregnancy, and implementation of social skills projects in areas related to EMP/EVF and HIV/AIDS.	Future actions : Curricular integration of themes related to gender, social citizenship and social skills in matters of EMP/EVF and HIV/AIDS.			95.8 ⁵
10	To reduce by 35% the infant mortality rate by 2015.	With the aim of reaching these objectives (10, 11, 12, 13), continuity was given to the Reproductive Health and Family Planning programmes, with implementation of the "Safer Pregnancy", "Primary health and nutrition care" and "Improvement in the quality of the mother-child health services and care" projects. These projects constituted important supports for improvement in human resources training, development of standards, acquisition of equipment and other supplies, and the rehabilitation of spaces in health structures. The actions were developed with the aim of improving the quality and overall coverage of care provided to women especially during pregnancy, childbirth etc., to newborns, especially in relation to	As it can be verified, the planned objectives have already been reached. However, there is a need for the country to remain vigilant, taking into account its vulnerability to epidemics that could reverse the trend in gains achieved.	45.0%o	22.6%o	21.1%o
11	To reduce in 45% the rate of mortality in children under five years of age.			60.0%o	26.6%o	25.2%o
12	To reduce by 2015 maternal mortality by three quarters			55.4%ooo 6	38.7%ooo	36.9%ooo

⁵ This refers to the Men/Women Parity Index in Basic education. This index is 107.64 in Secondary Education.

13	To halve by 2015, the number of people who suffer from malnutrition.	vaccination, assistance to and monitoring of newborns, and the reduction of transmission of the HIV virus from mother to child.		16%	6% ⁷	
14	To halve by 2015, the proportion of people with difficulty in accessing safe drinking water.	<p>Several projects have been carried out, namely conclusion of the water provision project in the Municipality of São Domingos, replacement of water piping in the City of Praia and water provision in the City of Assomada, all in the island of Santiago; water supply to the towns of Ribeira Brava and Tarrafal in the island of São Nicolau. Thus, the following have been constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9,960 linear meters (lm) of main piping - 92,312 lm of secondary and tertiary piping; - 3,030 home connections; - 12,047 lm of water provision piping; - 32,320 ml of distribution piping; - 3 reservoirs constructed and 4 rehabilitated; - 3 prospecting wells drilled and equipment for drilling 1 well; - 39 water fountains connected to the water distribution network <p>Additionally: 3 Klm of 400 mm piping have been replaced in the city of Praia; 70% of the urban area of Praia is covered through the water distribution network and 42.6% of the city population is connected to the water distribution network.</p> <p>The works for water provision to the secondary urban centers of the islands of Sal and Boavista are underway.</p>	<p>Constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rate of connection to water distribution network still low, due to: (i) rapid population growth; (ii) limited capacity of response to water connection requests; - Reduction of losses still not addressed, due to asbestos-cement piping still not disactivated; - Insignificant increase in the consumption of water/inhabitant, due to: (i) delays in the increase of water production; (ii) significant increase in water tariffs in January 2003. <p>Future actions:</p> <p>The evaluation of proposals for implementation of the drainage, water provision and treatment of residual waters works in the town of Pedra Badejo is in course.</p>			
15	To reduce by 2005 the rate of HIV infection in people between the ages of 15 and 24 in all countries, and up to 25% in the most affected	Cape Verde created in 2001 the Coordination Committee to Combat HIV/AIDS, the CCS-SIDA. It has been implementing since 2002 a National Programme to Combat HIV/AIDS, which benefits from World Bank support. This programme aims at the improvement of clinical diagnosis conditions, the equipment of	Certain vulnerability and risk factors exist, such as: low levels of income and education of an important part of the population; the precocious character of teenager sexual relations and high-risk sexual practices; lack of knowledge of			

⁶ 1995 data

⁷ 2002 data

	countries.	laboratories, the provision of essential medicines for treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) and opportunist infections, the implementation of orientation and sensitization services at all levels of the health pyramid. A set of documents on standards and policies has been produced in this area, in order to guide technical behaviors in all possible situations.	the real dimensions of the impact of HIV/AIDS; limited technical and financial resources of the country to support the introduction of antiretroviral therapy			
16	To increase to 60% the number of women who receive maternal and pre-natal assistance.	Implementation of the “Safer Pregnancy” project, aimed at institutional reinforcement and promotion of safer pregnancies, the development and application of a register o information and and treatment, as well as improved attention to pregnancy, childbirth, etc.				78.7%
17	To halve malnutrition by 2015, among pregnant women and children of school age.	Implementation of plans to combat micronutrient deficiency; approval of legislation on production and commercialization of iodized salt and the mechanisms for its control; distribution of iron in basic education schools				
18	Substantially to reduce f malaria and tuberculosis ubfection rates. To reduce by 50%, by 2010, deaths caused by these illnesses.	The Programme to Combat Malaria has continued with disease monitoring activities and monitoring and efficient treatment of registered cases. The National Plan to Combat the Epidemics was elaborated. The National Network of Laboratories for Integrated Monitoring of Transmissible Diseases and the Combat Against Epidemics was created. The Programme to Combat Tuberculosis is supported by a decentralized infrastructure able to implement activities to combat tuberculosis. In addition, the country has established a network of equipped laboratories for microscopy of tuberculosis.	The low degree of sanitation in some zones of the country makes difficult the combat against malaria. In order to reach the MDGs, as far as tuberculosis is concerned, some challenges need to be overcome : lack of conditions for community work in some municipalities; lack of financial resources for acquisition of medicines, equipment and reagents; limited number of trained national staff in this area.			

19	To promote child health and to reduce the disparity between developed and developing countries with particular attention to prevention of mortality among the children.	With the aim of reaching objectives 19 and 20, several activities have been developed within the framework of ongoing projects, namely “Primary Health and Nutrition Care” and "Improvement of the quality of mother-child health care services” (see the objectives of these projects). Thus, actions aimed at the newborn, especially those related to vaccination, assistance and monitoring of the newborn, have significantly contributed to the promotion of health and infant and child nutrition. Vaccination campaigns and iron distribution in basic education schools have been carried out.			
20	To improve the situation of child health and nutrition				
21	To promote breast-feeding as a strategy	Implementation of the Child Friendly Hospital initiative in different health structures and publicity about the advantages of breast-feeding up to six months of age.			

Commitment 4 - To develop the necessary production capacities so that the LDCs may benefit from Globalization

22	To increase by 2010 the road network in LDCs to the level of other developing countries and development of urban facilities, including the sewage system network and other related facilities.	<p>The national road network was the following in 2000 : 1,350 km of roads, 69% of which paved: 42% were in poor conditions; 33% were in reasonable state of maintenance; 25% were in good conditions.</p> <p>Construction/rehabilitation of the São Domingos – Assomada road (20.7 Km) was concluded In 2004. Rehabilitation of the Praia - S. Domingos (16 Km), Bolanha - Assomada Cemetery (2 Km), Praia Circular (15+2 km), Janela - Porto Novo (26 km) roads are in course.</p> <p>With regard to the sewage network, the following accomplishments are noteworthy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of a 3,390 lm primary residual water collector ; - 26,191 lm of sewage piping in diverse quarters of the city of Praia and 12,941 lm of sewage network, in addition to the construction of a residual water treatment station in the town of Tarrafal. 	<p>Constraints: Rate of connection to the sewage system still low due to: (i) high cost of connections to the network; (ii) tariffs charged by Electra Company.</p> <p>Future actions: Implementation of an accelerated home connection programme, financed by the OPEP Fund. Construction/rehabilitation of 103 Km of roads is foreseen within the scope of the MCA etc. programmes. Also, there are plans for construction of residual water treatment stations in several urban centers.</p>		
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		In addition: 38% of the area of the city of Praia is equipped with sanitation infrastructures; 15% of the population connected to the sewage network.				
23	To modernize and expand ports and airports as well as their dependences, with the aim of increasing their capacities by 2010.	Investments have been made in all of Cape Verde's ports. Conclusion of construction and start-up of the new Praia airport in 2005. Improvement works of airports in S. Vicente and Boa Vista are underway. Cape Verde now has two international airports.	Future actions: Expansion and modernization of the Port of the City of Praia. At finalisation of the improvement works in the airports of São Vicente and Boa Vista, the country will have four international airports.			
24	To modernize and expand the railway system, increasing its capacities to a level equal to the other developing countries, by the end of the decade.	----- ///	Given the characteristics of the Cape Verde archipelago, consisting of ten small islands, with a total surface area of 4,033Km ² , development of a railway system is not advised.			
25	To increase the rate of communication network of the LDCs, including telecommunications and postal services and to promote access of poor people to these services, both in urban and in rural areas.	Structural investments in the area of Telecommunications carried out both by the Government and by the Telecommunications company, Cape Verde Telecom. The country has a fibre-optic submarine cable. In terms of coverage of the national territory, fixed telephones increased from 62,600 in 2001 to 73,433 in 2004. On the other hand, cellular phones more than doubled from 31,507 in 2001, to 65,780 in 2004.				
26	To raise by 50% the study of computer sciences in higher education schools and universities and by 25% in secondary schools, by 2015	One of the measures considered to be of capital importance to reach that objective was the creation, in January of 2004, of the Operational Nucleus of the Society of Information, NOSI, with attributions and competences to promote and implement the policy measures for the Information and Communication Technology sector	No concrete data are available, but practically all higher education establishments in the Country and many of the secondary education schools are already equipped with computer science rooms.			

27	To increase the average telephone density by 5 per 100 inhabitants and InterNet connections by 10 per 100, by 2010.	The rate of fixed telephone connection, which was 13% in 2001, grew to 15.7 telephones per 100 inhabitants in 2004. The density for the cellular phone network was 14.1% in 2004. As far as InterNet is concerned, there were about 2,456 registered members in 2000, more than doubling to 5,371 in 2004. All government structures are linked to the Government InterNet network. These achievements were attained thanks to large investments carried out in the Telecommunications sector and through implementation of the State Administrative and Financial Reform project, which contributed to the creation of NOSI, as mentioned above under Objective 26.	The high cost of the services constitutes the major limitation to expansion and massive use of information and communication technologies	13%	15,7%
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Commitment 5 - To strengthen the role of commerce in development

		<p>A reform programme for the commerce sector has been developed and implemented from 1992, aimed at gradual liberalization. Imports were totally liberalized in 1999. However, essential goods, due to the importance they have in public supply, were submitted to special licensing conditions. Meanwhile, in 2002, the public reserve of commercial activities on imports of maize, rice and sugar was suppressed. In 2004, import of wheat and flour was liberalized. However, exports were totally liberalized in 1987, and neither restrictions nor quantitative quotas are applied in exports.</p> <p>In the meantime, even though Cape Verde is not signatory of the Washington Convention (on endangered flora and fauna species), it prohibits export of endangered flora and fauna species. There are no programmes to fund or provide export subsidies.</p> <p>The current prices policy for goods and services in Cape Verde is implemented in a transparent way and supported by the market mechanisms. However, for reasons that have to do with the public supply, a maximum price policy is maintained for goods such as rice, maize, sugar, wheat, wheat flour, potato and onion as well as a fixed price policy for fuels, bread and medicines. Cape Verde is currently carrying out reforms in legislation so as to</p>	<p>Future perspectives for development of the commerce sector are integrated within the following, anchored in the process of adhesion of Cape Verde to the WTO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of bilateral agreements, such as AGOA, NIC and ACP/EU; - Dynamisation of exchanges with ECOWAS; - Development of a special partnership with the European Union; - Regulation of the domestic market; - Modernization and capacity building of the commerce sector (commercial administration and private sector); - Diversification and innovation of the productive base destined to exports, anchored in development of light industry and in the development of maritime, land and port infrastructures, - Modernization of transportation as well as the attraction of foreign direct investment. 		
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		<p>harmonize existing legislation with the norms of the WTO, in the framework of the adhesion of the country to that Organization. The adhesion request was made in November 1999 and the Memorandum on the Capeverdian external commerce regime delivered to the WTO in July 2003.</p>				
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Commitment 6 - To reduce vulnerability and to protect the environment

		<p>The characteristics of Cape Verde (archipelago made up of 10 small islands) being a SIDS accentuate to a large extent the existing vulnerabilities. The Second National Environment Action Plan, PANA II, was elaborated with the objective of promoting a better utilization of the natural resources and national patrimony. The Plan is valid until 2014, and includes the following major environment themes: Sustainable management of water Resources; Public Health; Biodiversity; Territory Management; Education, Training, Information and Sensitization; Tourism; Agriculture, Forestry, Cattle and Fisheries; Industry, Energy and Commerce. PANA II also includes plans for all municipalities in the country. A National Civil Protection Service has also been created, with the following objectives: to prepare for the occurrence of serious accidents, catastrophes and calamities; to reduce the inherent risks of occurrence of these phenomena and to limit their effects; to save and help people in danger; to contribute to the reestablishment of normal conditions in affected zones.</p>	<p>PANA II foresees monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the plans to be implemented. A System for Monitoring of Environmental Quality (SSQA) is being created and the existing Environment Information System (SIA) is being revitalized.</p>			
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Commitment 7 - To Mobilize financial resources						
28	To reach the goal of 0.20% of donors' GNP as ODA for the LDCs.	These three objectives concerning mobilization of financial resources are related to the responses that the developed countries must give so that the LDCs may, in part, obtain the resources for concretization of the 2001 Brussels objectives/ commitments. In this respect, and also taking the Millennium Development Goals into account, there are already pledges from some partners or group of countries in the way they plan to support the LDCs to achieve these goals by 2015. For example, it is the case of the European Union, which is committed to duplicating aid to Africa by 2010 and to provide upto 0.20% of its GNP, compared with 0.15 % currently, to the LDCs.	Cape Verde has been in permanent negotiations with its major development partners, aimed at increasing and maximizing aid received, so as to maintain a sustainable development process in this phase of graduation of the country out of the LDCs. Cape Verde signed, In April 2004, a "Memorandum of Understanding" on Budgetary Aid with three of its major partners (the Netherlands, the European Union and the World Bank). Other partners, such as the ADB, for example, are already adhering to this financing mechanism, which is considered more efficient for the sustainability of economic growth and development.			
29	Other donor countries which have already provided aid worth 0.15% of GNP must try to reach 0.20%					
30	All other donor countries that have committed to reach 0.15% must reaffirm their commitment and undertake actions in order to reach this objective in the next the five years					

Conclusion: This is a succinct report on the main measures and activities developed during the past years, but mainly since adoption of the present Brussels Programme of Action in favor of the Least Developed Countries for the 2001-2010 decade. The weaknesses in collecting statistical data have made it difficult in some cases to present data on the achievements made during this period. This is still a preliminary version of the report that will certainly be improved throughout 2006.