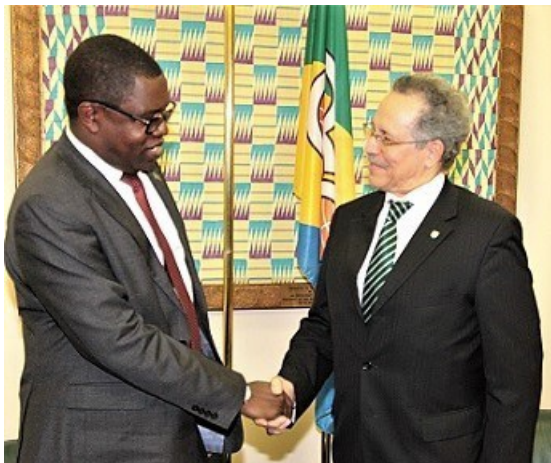


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Brussels 21 November 2018/ACP/: The Honorable Joseph Malanji, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia, paid a courtesy call on Dr. Patrick Gomes, Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), on Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Secretary-General Gomes and the Honorable Malanji reaffirmed their mutual commitment to strengthen relations between the Republic of Zambia and the ACP Group of States. They also discussed the ongoing negotiations for a new agreement on future relations between the ACP countries and the EU after 2020, as well as other key political and development issues of common interest.

The Secretary-General commended Zambia for successfully organizing the International Conference on Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM18) from 11 to 13 September 2018 and the efforts of the Zambian Government to develop the Mineral Sectors.

The Honorable Minister reiterated his country's full support for the ACP Group's visions and congratulated the Secretary General on his leadership at this crucial moment in the history of the ACP Group of States.

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