COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.1/03/14 APPOINTING MR. JEROME TRAORE TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT;

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to Burkina Faso, Mr. Jérome TRAORE was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Mr. Jérome TRAORE a national of Burkina Faso, to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16th to 19th March 2014 in Cotonou;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Mr. Jérome TRAORE, a national of Burkina Faso, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.2/03/14 APPOINTING Mr. YAYA BOIRO TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT;

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Guinea, Mr. Yaya BOIRO was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Mr. Yaya BOIRO to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Guinea;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16th to 19th March 2014 in Cotonou;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Mr. Yaya BOIRO, a national of the Republic of Guinea, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice.

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.3/03/14 APPOINTING MRS. MARIA DO CEU MONTEIRO SILA TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT;

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Mrs. Maria Do Ceu MONTEIRO SILA was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Mrs. Maria Do Ceu MONTEIRO SILA to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16th to 19th March 2014 in Cotonou;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Mrs. Maria Do Ceu MONTEIRO SILA, a national of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice.

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.4/03/14 APPOINTING MR. MICAH WILKINS WRIGHT TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT;

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Liberia, Mr. Micah Wilkins Wright was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Mr. Micah Wilkins Wright to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Liberia;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16th to 19th March 2014 in Cotonou;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Mr. Micah Wilkins Wright, a national of the Republic of Liberia, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice.

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OFMARCH 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.5/03/14 APPOINTING MR. HAMEYE FOUNE MAHALMADANE TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT;

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Mali, Mr. Hameye Foune MAHALMADANE was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Mr. Hameye Foune MAHALMADANE to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Mali;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16th to 19th March 2014 in Cotonou.;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO
ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Mr. Hameye Foune MAHALMADANE, a national of the Republic of Mali, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice.

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.6/03/14 APPOINTING PROFESSOR FRIDAY CHIJOKE NWOKE TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Prof. Friday Chijoke NWOKE was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Prof. Friday Chijoke NWOKE. to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16 to 19 March 2014 in Cotonou;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO
ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Prof. Friday Chijoke NWOKE, a national of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice.

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC.7/03/14 APPOINTING MR. ALIOUNE SALL TO THE POST OF JUDGE AT THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT;

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/7/91 relating to the Community Court of Justice particularly in Articles 3 and 4 whereof providing for the composition of the Community Court of Justice, the appointment of Judges and their term of office;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/01/05 amending the Protocol relating to the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SP.8/12/08 of 19 December 2008 appointing Judges of the Community Court of Justice;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/02/12 of 17 February 2012 allocating four (4) posts of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

WHEREAS, in view of the expiry of the term of Judges at the Community Court of Justice and the need to replace them, the Forty-Third Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held in Abuja on 17 and 18 July 2013 allocated a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to the Republics of Liberia and Mali, and to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as to Burkina Faso, in replacement of Ghana;

WHEREAS the provisions of Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision A/DEC 5/07/13 of 18 July 2013 allocating three (3) posts of Judge and reallocating a post of Judge of the Community Court of Justice to some Member States, the current allocation of Judges at the Community Court of Justice is as follows: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal;

WHEREAS, following the assessment of candidates to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Senegal, Mr. Alioune SALL was considered to be the most suitable candidate for the position;

EAGER to ensure that the Court functions with the full complement of its Judges as set out by Protocol A/P1/7/91;

DESIROUS of appointing Mr. Alioune SALL to the post of Judge at the Community Court of Justice allocated to the Republic of Senegal;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Community Judicial Council, based on the outcome of a competitive selection conducted by the said Council, which convened from 16 to 19 March 2014 in Cotonou;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirteenth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 26th March 2014;

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

ENACTS

Article 1:

Mr. Alioune SALL, a national of the Republic of Senegal, is hereby appointed as Judge at the Community Court of Justice.

ARTICLE 2:

In accordance with Article 18 new paragraph (f) of Protocol SP1/06/06 amending the Revised ECOWAS Treaty, the term of the Judges takes effect from the date of swearing-in before the Current Chairman of the Authority, and expires at the end of the non-renewable term of four (4) years

ARTICLE 3:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days of its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

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H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE AUTHORITY

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

COMUNIDADE ECONÓMICA
DOS ESTADOS DA ÁFRICA OCIDENTAL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
DE L'OUEST

FORTY FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 28 – 29 March 2014

DECISION A/DEC. 9/03/14 RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICES IN MEMBER STATES

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

ACKNOWLEDGING the fact that ECOWAS must establish a strong physical presence in all Member States in order to promote and secure active involvement of States in implementing the aims and objectives of the Organisation;

RECALLING that the Council of Ministers at its fifty-third Session which was held in Accra on 16 to 18 January 2005 approved the establishment of ECOWAS Permanent Representational Offices in five (5) Member States;

CONSIDERING that the offices are to operate as diplomatic missions supervised by officials that would themselves operate as Heads of diplomatic missions with the Status of Directors;

HAVING ACKNOWLEDGED the increase in the activities of ECOWAS in addressing regional integration challenges in order to achieve ECOWAS Vision 2020;

NOTING that the principle of direct physical presence of ECOWAS in Member States will ensure the full engagement of States and the citizenry in the cause of regional integration;

RECOGNIZING the need to embark on a gradual and phased establishment of Permanent Representational Offices in order to minimise the financial burden on the Community;

DESIROUS therefore of establishing these Permanent Representational Offices in Member States;

CEDEAO
ECOWAS

UPON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Seventy first Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers which took place in Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, from 16th to 17th December 2013;

DECIDES

Article 1

1. The establishment of ECOWAS Permanent Representational Offices in these Member States is hereby approved.

2. The establishment of these Offices shall be coordinated and undertaken by the President of the ECOWAS Commission in a progressive manner in accordance with the phase plan attached as an annex to this Decision.

Article 2

The mandate of the Permanent Representational Offices shall include:

1. Enhancing ECOWAS presence and visibility in the Member State;

2. Promoting relations between the Host States and ECOWAS Institutions;

3. Serve as interface between the various National Stakeholders and ECOWAS Institutions and Agencies for the promotion, ownership and the implementation of the Regional agenda;

4. Enhance and facilitate coordination and implementation of Regional programmes ensuring necessary follow up and monitoring;

5. Support Member States' efforts at achieving ECOWAS objectives.

Article 3

1. The Council of Ministers shall in consultation with the President of the ECOWAS Commission propose a lean and efficient structure for the Permanent Representational Offices to function as diplomatic missions which shall be headed by Officials with the status of Ambassadors. The financial requirements for the operation of the Offices shall be approved by Council.

CEDEAO

ECOWAS

2. The President of the Commission shall urgently carry out an assessment of the existing ECOWAS structures in Member States with a view to integrating and consolidating these structures under the established Permanent Representational Offices.

Article 4

This Decision shall enter into force upon signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall be published by the President of the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days after signature. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH, 2014

.....

H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA

FOR THE AUTHORITY

THE CHAIRMAN

CEDEAO
ECOWAS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONS

MEMBER STATE	YEAR	MEMBER STATE	YEAR
Burkina Faso	2014	The Gambia	2015
Liberia	2014	Ghana	2016
Togo	2014	Benin	2016
Niger	2015	Senegal	2016
Sierra Leone	2015	Cabo Verde	2017

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

DECISION C/DEC.1/12/13 SUPPORTING THE CANDIDATURE OF MR. SHOLA TAYLOR FOR THE POST OF DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUCATION UNION (ITU)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11, 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

CONSIDERING that the Federal Republic of Nigeria is seeking the support of Member States for the candidature of her national, Mr. Shola Taylor for election into the position of Deputy Secretary-General of the ITU scheduled for 20 October to 7 November 2014;

CONSIDERING that, Mr. Shola Taylor possesses the requisite qualifications, experience and skills to satisfactorily discharge the responsibilities of the Deputy Secretary General of ITU;

NOTING that the Seventy first Session of the Council of Ministers has been informed of the candidature of Mr. Shola Taylor to the above mentioned position and that the Federal Republic of Nigeria is the only Member State seeking the support of other Member States for her candidate into the said position;

DETERMINED to support the candidatures of the most deserving Community citizens for their recruitment into International Organizations that are of special importance for the West African region;

DESIROUS of adopting a common position in support of the candidature of Mr. Shola Taylor in order to facilitate his election into the position of Deputy Secretary General of the ITU;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

1. The ECOWAS Member States hereby support the candidature of Mr. Shola Taylor for election to the post of Deputy Secretary-General of the ITU;

2. The Member States' Competent Authorities shall take the necessary steps to vote for Mr. Shola Taylor at the election referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 2

The Competent Authorities of the ECOWAS Member States and the President of the ECOWAS Commission shall seek the support of other States outside the sub-region with a view to achieving the objectives of this Decision.

ARTICLE 3

This Decision shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

DECISION C/DEC.2/12/13 SUPPORTING THE CANDIDATURE OF MR. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION (WIPO)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11, 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

CONSIDERING that the Federal Republic of Nigeria is seeking the support of Member States for the candidature of her national, Mr. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA for election into the position of Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) which election will take place in 2014;

CONSIDERING that, Mr. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA possesses the requisite qualifications, experience and skills to satisfactorily discharge the responsibilities of the Director General of WIPO;

NOTING that the Seventy first Session of the Council of Ministers has been informed of the candidature of Mr. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA to the above mentioned position and that the Federal Republic of Nigeria is the only Member State seeking the support of other Member States for her candidate into the said position;

DETERMINED to support the candidatures of the most deserving Community citizens for their recruitment into International Organizations that are of special importance for the West African region;

DESIROUS of adopting a common position in support of the candidature of Mr. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA in order to facilitate his election into the position of Director General of WIPO;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

1. The ECOWAS Member States hereby support the candidature of Mr. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA for election to the post of Director General of WIPO;

2. The Member States' Competent Authorities shall take the necessary steps to vote for Mr. GEOFFREY ONYEAMA at the election referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 2

The Competent Authorities of the ECOWAS Member States and the President of the ECOWAS Commission shall seek the support of other States outside the sub-region with a view to achieving the objectives of this Decision.

ARTICLE 3

This Decision shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

DECISION C/DEC.3/12/13 SUPPORTING THE CANDIDATURE OF MR. ABDOULKARIM SOUMAILA FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (ATU)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11, 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONSIDERING that the Republic of Niger is seeking other Member States' support for the candidature of her national, Mr. Abdoulkarim SOUMAILA for re-election to the post of Secretary-General of the African Telecommunications Union;

CONSIDERING that Mr. Abdoukarim Soumaila possesses the requisite qualifications, skills and experience for the Office and creditably discharged his responsibilities during his first tenure at ATU.

NOTING that the ECOWAS Commission has been informed only of the candidature of Mr. Abdoulkarim SOUMAILA for the above-mentioned election, and that the Federal Republic of Niger is the only Member State seeking the support of other Member States for her candidate;

DETERMINED to support the candidatures of the most deserving Community citizens for their recruitment into International Organizations that are of special importance to the West African region;

DESIROUS of adopting a common position in support of the candidature of Mr. Abdoulkarim SOUMAILA to facilitate his re-election within the ATU;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

1. The ECOWAS Member States hereby support the candidature of Mr. Abdoulkarim SOUMAILA for re-election to the post of Secretary-General of the ATU;

2. The Member States' Competent Authorities shall take the necessary steps to vote for Mr. Abdoulkarim SOUMAILA at the election referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE 2

The Competent Authorities of the ECOWAS Member States and the President of the ECOWAS Commission shall seek the support of other States outside the sub-region with a view to achieving the objectives of this Decision.

ARTICLE 3

This Decision shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.1/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE ECOWAS COMMISSION, FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the ECOWAS Commission, its Agencies, Centres and Offices for the 2013 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 – 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the ECOWAS Commission, its Agencies, Centres and Offices during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.2/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE ECOWAS PARLIAMENT FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the ECOWAS Parliament for the 2013 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 - 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the ECOWAS Parliament during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY of DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.3/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the Community Court of Justice for the 2013 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 - 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the Community Court of Justice during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY of DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.4/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE WEST AFRICAN HEALTH ORGANISATION FOR THE 2013 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the West African Health Organisation for the 2014 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 – 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the West African Health Organisation during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.5/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL ACTION GROUP AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING IN WEST AFRICA (GIABA) FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) for the 2013 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 – 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.6/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE ECOWAS GENDER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre for the 2014 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 - 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the ECOWAS Gender Development Centre during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.7/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE WATER RESOURCES INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT CENTRE FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the Water Resources Coordination Centre for the 2014 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 - 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the Water Resources Integrated Management Centre during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL
THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.8/12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE ECOWAS OFFICE IN BRUSSELS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the ECOWAS Office in Brussels for the 2014 Financial Year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 - 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the ECOWAS Office in Brussels during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.9 /12/13 APPROVING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE ECOWAS YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Work Programme of the Youth and Sports Development Centre for the 2014 financial year recommended by the twelfth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja, from 4 – 8 November 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Work Programme attached hereto, is hereby approved and shall be executed by the Youth and Sports Development Centre during the 2014 Financial Year.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days upon signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

Seventy-First Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.10/12/13 APPROVING THE BUDGET OF THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS, STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS, SPECIAL PROGRAMMES AND INTERVENTIONS IN MEMBER STATES AND IN THE PEACE AND SECURITY SECTOR FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 69 of the Treaty which relates to the budget of the Community Institutions;

MINDFUL of Article 72 of the Treaty relating to the Community Levy;

MINDFUL of the Regulation C/REG.5/05/09 of May 27, 2009 adopting the Financial Regulations of the Institutions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);

MINDFUL in particular, of Articles 11 and 12 of the Financial Regulations of the Community referred to in the preceding paragraph, which provide for the preparation of a consolidated budget for the Community and for the structure and presentation of the Budget;

HAVING CONSIDERED the budget estimates of ECOWAS Institutions as well as other ECOWAS Interventions and Obligations as proposed by the fourteenth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee which was held in Abuja from 4th – 8th November, 2013;

HAVING ALSO EXAMINED other important Community projects presented by the ECOWAS Commission requiring additional budget.

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the

ENACTS

Article 1

The budget estimates of the ECOWAS Institutions/Agencies as well as that for other ECOWAS Special Programmes, Interventions and Obligations for the 2014 financial year are hereby approved.

Article 2

1. Approved Budget Income for 2014 is as follows:

i) Community Levy from Member States	-	UA 385,759,253
ii) Arrears of Contributions	-	UA 4,982,374
iii) Other Income	-	UA 199,371
iv) Income from External Sources	-	UA 19,197,465
Total:	-	**UA 410,138,463**

2. Approved Budget Expenditure for 2014 is allocated as follows:

i)	Institutions	-	**UA 214,919,697**
ii)	Statutory Obligations	-	**UA 10,049,245**
iii)	Special Programmes and Interventions in Member States	-	**UA 136,828,597**

iv) Peace and Security - **UA 46,449,155**

Total: - **UA 408,246,694**

3. The unrealized budget surplus therefore amounts to UA1.891.769

Article 3

The 2014 Budget estimates of the Community Institutions shall be derived from the following sources:

a) An amount of **One hundred and ninety million, five hundred and forty thousand and four hundred and eighty seven Units of Accounts (UA190,540,487)** shall be derived from resources obtained from the Community Levy.

b) An amount of **Four million, nine hundred and eighty two thousand three hundred and seventy four Units of Accounts (UA 4,982,374)** shall be derived from Arrears of Contribution.

c) An additional amount of **One hundred and ninety nine thousand, three hundred and seventy one Units of Account (UA199,371)** shall be derived from Other Income.

d) An amount of **Nineteen million, one hundred and ninety seven thousand, four hundred and sixty five Units of Account (UA19,197,465)** shall be derived from External Resources.

Article 4

The 2014 Budget estimates for other ECOWAS Obligations shall be derived from the following sources:

1. Budget estimates for Statutory Obligations in the amount of Ten million, forty nine thousand, two hundred and forty five Units of

Accounts (UA10, 049,245) shall be derived from resources of the Community Levy.

2. Budget estimates for Special Programmes and Interventions in Member States in the amount of One hundred and thirty six million, eight hundred and twenty eight thousand, five hundred and ninety seven Units of Account (UA136,828,597) shall be derived from resources of the Community Levy.

3. Budget estimates for Peace and Security in the amount of forty six million, four hundred and forty nine thousand, one hundred and fifty five Units of Account (UA46,449,155) shall be derived from Community Levy.

Article 5

The breakdown and sources of budget allocations made to individual ECOWAS Institutions is attached as an annex to this Regulation.

Article 6

1. This Regulation shall enter into force upon signature by the Chairman of Council.

2. It shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the ECOWAS Commission within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and it shall also be published within the same timeframe in each Member State in its Official Gazette.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

FOR COUNCIL

THE CHAIRMAN

Annex

Funding of individual ECOWAS Institutions

Commission

- Community Levy from Member State - **UA 137,708,876 (89,85%)**
- Arrears of Contributions - **UA 3,168,289 (2,07%)**
- Other Income - **UA 165,000 (0,11%)**
- Income from External Sources - **UA 12,229,761 (7,97%)**

WAHO

- Community Levy from Member States - **UA 16,713,673 (70.78%)**
- Arreas from Contributions - **UA222,586 (0.94%)**
- Other Income - **UA 8,371 (0.04%)**
- Income from External Sources - **UA 6,667,704 (28.24%)**

GIABA

- Community Levy from Member States - **UA 9491474(96,93%)**
- Income from External sources - **UA 300,000 (3.07%)**

Parliament

- Community Levy from Member States - **UA13,444,590 (91.69%)**
- Arrears from Contributions - **UA 1,217,343(8.30%)**
- Other Income - **UA 1,000 (0.1%)**

Court of Justice

- Community Levy from Member States - **UA 13,181,874 (97.66%)**
- Arreas of contributions - **UA 374,156 (2.76%)**
- Other Income - **UA 25,000 (0.18%)**

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.11/12/13 RELATING TO THE RETITLING OF THE NAME ECOWAS NATIONAL UNITS TO ECOWAS NATIONAL OFFICES AND TO THE ADOPTION OF AN OPERATIONAL MANUAL FOR THE ECOWAS NATIONAL OFFICES

The Council of Ministers ;

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Recommendation C/REC.1/11/82 on the establishment of ECOWAS National Structures to coordinate and follow up ECOWAS activities in the Member States;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.3/12/90 on the upgrading of the status of ECOWAS National Units in the Member States;

MINDFUL of Decision C/DEC 6/12/90 on the institutionalization of the meeting of Heads of ECOWAS National Units;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG.5/8/97 relating to the conditions for the payment of a subsidy of 10,000 Units of Account to National Units;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG 4/06/05 relating to the Mission, Roles and functions, of ECOWAS National Units;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG.24/24/11/10 relating to the adoption of guiding principles for the operation of ECOWAS National Units;

CONSIDERING that the National Units established in the Member States are faced with structural and operational challenges;

NOTING that the administrative and the functional arrangements made for the operations of the National Units within the States impede optimal accomplishment of the mission and mandate of these Units;

CONSCIOUS of the need to provide the appropriate institutional anchoring for the National Units within the public service structures of Member States;

REALISING the benefits to be derived from improving and strengthening these administrative and functional arrangements made for the National Units in terms of better service delivery;

WISHING to consolidate the various Community Decisions and Acts governing the operations of the National Units into a comprehensive set of ruleswhich will constitute a one stop operational guideline for these Units;

CONSCIOUS of the need to enhance the operational capacities of the National Units and endow them with the same mode of operation by harmonizing the structures, the administrative operations, and the financial management, with a view to facilitating the attainment and the coordination of the ECOWAS regional integration agenda at the national level;

NOTING that a change in the nomenclature of the ECOWAS National Units will also facilitate an upgrade in the status of the Units within the public service structure of Member States;

RECALLING Council Directive of 26 November 2010 on the development of an Operational Manual for the National Units;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the fourteenth Meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee held in Abuja from 4th to 8th November 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1

1. The ECOWAS National Units in Member States are hereby retitled ECOWAS National Offices.

2. Operating within the structural framework of the Member States' Ministries in charge of ECOWAS, the ECOWAS National Offices shall be endowed with the necessary administrative and financial autonomy to enable an effective discharge of their functions.

Article 2

1. A Manual for the operation of ECOWAS National Offices is hereby adopted. The operational Manual is attached to this Regulation.

2. Member States shall take all necessary measures to ensure the establishment of measures and the compliance of obligations set out in the Manual.

Article 3

The ECOWAS Commission shall publish this Regulation in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) daysof the date of its signatureby the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days following notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

OF COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.12/12/13 APPROVING AN ANNUAL BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR THE INTEREST RATE SUBSIDY FUND OF THE ECOWAS BANK FOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (EBID)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions,

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.1/12/01 amending Articles 1, 3, 6 and 21 of the ECOWAS Treaty containing provisions on the transformation of the ECOWAS Fund into a holding company known as the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) with two subsidiaries,

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P.2/12/01 relating to the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development,

CONSIDERING that at its forty-second ordinary session held in Yamoussoukro on 27 and 28 February 2013, the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government requested EBID to make proposals concerning the Interest Subsidy Fund and to inform the Authority's decision-making body,

CONSIDERING that the EBID Interest Subsidy Fund (ISF) is a special reserve fund aimed at providing support by way of interest subsidies for EBID activities in favour of ECOWAS Member States, in order to contribute more effectively to meeting their development needs,

NOTING that the Government of India has made available to EBID and its Member States non-concessionary loans, thus limiting Member States' access of to the credit facilities,

NOTING that, in order to access the loans under concessionary conditions, EBID will have to apply a maximum interest rate of 1.75% per year for a minimum period of 20 years,

CONVINCED that, for Member States to benefit from the concessionary funds provided by the Bank, the difference in the interest rates would have to be borne by the ISF,

RECALLING that, notwithstanding its financial constraints, EBID has contributed significantly to the fight against poverty and the development of ECOWAS Member States,

DESIROUS of approving a budgetary allocation to the EBID Interest Subsidy Fund to enable it intensify its activities in public sector projects in such a manner as to ensure the efficient and effective execution of its tasks,

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the fourteenth meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee held in Abuja from 4 to 8 November 2013,

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

1. By virtue of this Regulation, an annual budgetary allocation of Four Million US Dollars (USD 4,000,000) for the EBID Interest Rate Subsidy Fund (IRSF) is hereby approved.

2. This special budgetary allocation shall run for a 3-year period starting in 2014.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signing by the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by

each Member State in its National Gazette within 30 days of its notification thereof by the Commission.

DONE AT ABUJA THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.13/12/13 ADOPTING THE REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME FOR DESERTIFICATION CONTROL IN WEST AFRICA

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the revised ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 29 of the said Treaty relating to the environment, which prescribes that «Member States shall commit to protecting, preserving and improving the natural environment of the region, cooperate in the event of disaster, adopt strategies and programmes at national and regional levels, and set up appropriate institutions to protect the environment, control erosion, deforestation, desertification, locust hazards and other scourges»;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.4/12/08 adopting the ECOWAS environmental policy;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.1/12/99 adopting a sub-regional action plan for desertification control in West Africa;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.12/12/2000 adopting a sub-regional action plan on integrated water management;

RECALLING the resolutions of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio, particularly Agenda 21 and those of the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002;

CONSIDERING the cross-cutting nature of environmental issues on the entire ECOWAS sectoral policies;

ALSO CONSIDERING the common and cross-border nature of natural resources and the processes and the environmental problems of the sub-region;

AWARE of the urgency to mobilise adequate financial resources to efficiently implement activities in the West African environmental sector;

CONVINCED of the need to adopt a regional action plan to implement and monitor the programmes and activities with the intent *of transforming the livestock sector*;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the meeting of Ministers responsible for livestock held on 10 March 2010 in Bamako.

ENACTS:

ARTICLE 1 : Adoption

The Sub-regional Action Programme for Desertification Control in West Africa is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2 : Implementation

1. The Sub-regional Action Programme for Desertification Control in West Africa as adopted shall be implemented by the ECOWAS Commission.

2. The Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources, by delegation from the President of the ECOWAS

Commission, shall be responsible for the supervision of the programme

ARTICLE 3 : Entry into force and publication

This Regulation shall enter into force on the date of its signing by the Chairman of Council and shall be published by the Commission in the ECOWAS Official Journal within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16-17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.14/12/13 ADOPTING THE WEST AFRICAN FOREST CONVERGENCE PLAN

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10,11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 29 of the said Treaty on the Environment, prescribing that «Member States undertake to protect, preserve and enhance the natural environment of the Region, cooperate in the event of natural disasters, and adopt national and regional strategies and programmes and establish the appropriate Institutions to protect and enhance the environment, control erosion, deforestation, desertification, locusts and other pests»;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.4/12/08 adopting the ECOWAS Environmental Policy;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.1/12/99 adopting the Sub-Regional Change Action Plan to Combat Desertification in West Africa;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.12/12/2000 adopting the Sub-Regional Action Plan for Integrated Water Resource Management;

RECALLING the resolutions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio in 1992, in particular Agenda 21, and those of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in 2002;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the multisectoral nature of environmental issues on all ECOWAS sectoral policies;

TAKING ALSO INTO ACCOUNT the common and transborder nature of natural resources, environmental issues and processes in the sub-region.

RECOGNIZING the urgent need to mobilize adequate financial resources to effectively undertake interventions in the environmental sector;

DETERMINED to adopt a regional plan of action for the implementation and the monitoring of programmes and activities related to desertification;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Meeting of ECOWAS Ministers of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources held in Abidjan on 12 September 2013.

ENACTS:

ARTICLE 1: Adoption

The sub regional plan of Action for the fight against desertification in West Africa attached is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2: Implementation

1. The West African Convergence Plan referred to in Article 1 of this Regulation shall be implemented by the ECOWAS Commission.

2. The Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources, acting on behalf of the President of the ECOWAS Commission, shall oversee the implementation.

ARTICLE 3: ENTRY INTO FOR AND PUBLICATION

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

OF COUNCIL

COMMUNITE ECONOMIQUE DES
ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16-17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.15 /12/13 APPROVING THE HARMONIZED STANDARD ECOSTAND-001- 2013 FOR NON REFINED PALM OIL

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS;

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the Supplementary Act 07/02/10 of 2nd July 2010 adopting the West African Common Industrial Policy (WACIP)

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG. 14/12/12 approving procedures for harmonizing ECOWAS standards;

CONSIDERING that one of the important missions of ECOWAS within the context of the in the harmonization of policies and regional integration is to promote the development and harmonization of standards, procedures and compliance assessment measures to reduce technical barriers to trade and to encourage intra-regional and international trade while increasing the industrialization of the region;

CONSIDERING that in accordance with Regulation C/REG.14/12/12 approving procedures for harmonizing ECOWAS standards, it should proceed with the approval of standards of products;

NOTING that after the initial works of the Technical Committee on Harmonization of agricultural products, palm oil was selected for the purpose of standardization based on Codex Alimentarius in order to facilitate trade not only within ECOWAS , but also for international trade;

CONSIDERING the fact that palm oil is the oil produced and consumed in the ECOWAS region, commonly known as red oil which can be obtained in two forms (virgin palm oil and cold pressed palm oil).

RECALLING that the ECOWAS standards are drafted in accordance with the rules set out in Part 2 of ISO/IEC and are designed to clarify the essential composition, quality requirements, methods of sampling and testing for palm oil meant for human consumption;

DESIRING to approve harmonized standard ECOSTAND-001-2013 on non refined oil to facilitate trade not only within ECOWAS, but also for international trade;

ON THE RECOMMANDATION of the Meeting of Ministers in charge of standardization in ECOWAS Member States held in Abidjan (Republic of Côte d' Ivoire) on 27 Novembre 2013;

E N A C T S

ARTICLE 1

By this Regulation, the attached harmonized standard ECOSTAND-001-2013 for non refined palm oil is hereby approved.

ARTICLE 2

Member States, the Commission and all other ECOWAS institutions shall ensure compliance with the standard as defined in Article 1 of this Regulation.

ARTICLE 3: ENTRY INTO FOR AND PUBLICATION

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN
OF COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.16/12/13 APPROVING THE HARMONIZED STANDARD ECOSTAND -003- 2013 (E) FOR MAIZE GRAINS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions ;

MINDFUL of Article 26 of the said ECOWAS Treaty which stipulates that Member States shall harmonize and coordinate their industrialization policies for the promotion of industrial development and integration of their economies;

MINDFUL of the provisions of Article 26 paragraph 3 of the Treaty, in particular in point L, which commits Member States to adopt common standards and appropriate quality control systems, to create a solid base for industrialization and promote collective self-reliance;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA. 07/02/10 of 2 July 2010 adopting the West African Common Industrial Policy (WACIP) ;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG. 14/12/12 approving procedures for harmonizing ECOWAS standards;

CONSIDERING that one of the important missions of ECOWAS in the harmonization of policies and regional integration is to promote the development and harmonization of standards, procedures and compliance assessment measures to reduce technical barriers to trade and to encourage intra-regional and international trades while increasing the industrialization of the region;

CONSIDERING that in accordance with Regulation C/REG.14/12/12 approving procedures for harmonizing ECOWAS standards, it should proceed with the approval of standards of products;

NOTING that after the initial works of the Technical Committee on Harmonization of agricultural products, maize grains were selected for the purpose of standardization to facilitate trade not only within ECOWAS, but also in international trade;

ALSO NOTING that this ECOWAS regional standard applies to maize meant for human consumption, that is, ready for its intended use in human food, presented in packaged form or sold loose from packaging directly to the consumer, that it also specifies the conditions for whole shelled grains and dentate maize, Zea mays indentataL and/or cornea maize, Zea mays indurataL, or their hybrids, as well as classification, sampling and testing methods for maize grains;

DESIROUS of approving the harmonized standard ECOSTAND-003-2013 (E) on maize grains in order to facilitate trade not only within ECOWAS, but also in international trade;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Meeting of Ministers in charge of standardization in ECOWAS Member States held in Abidjan (Republic of Côte d' Ivoire) on 27 November, 2013;

E N A C T S

ARTICLE 1

By this Regulation, the attached harmonized standard ECOSTAND-003-2013 (E) for maize grains is hereby approved.

ARTICLE 2

Member States, the Commission and all other ECOWAS institutions shall ensure compliance with the standard as defined in Article 1 of this Regulation.

ARTICLE 3: ENTRY INTO FOR AND PUBLICATION

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

OF COUNCIL

SEVENTY FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 to 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.17/12/13 ADOPTING THE RULES OF ORGANIZATION OF ECOWAS QUALITY AWARD

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of the Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Revised Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions,

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA 1/02/13 adopting the ECOWAS Quality Policy of (ECOQUAL) and its implementation framework;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA 02/07/10 adopting the West Africa Common Industrial Policy (WACIP) and its actions plan;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG 14/12/12 adopting the harmonization procedures of ECOWAS standards (ECOSHAM)

CONSIDERING the need to ensure the promotion of quality within ECOWAS zone;

DESIRING to promote the quality and the performance of Community Bodies by recognizing their merit at the regional level;

ENACTS

Article I: OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the ECOWAS Quality Award is:

"Promoting the quality and the performance of Community Bodies by recognizing their merit at the regional level. "

The specific objectives of ECOWAS Quality Award are:

- Promoting quality within ECOWAS zone and beyond its borders by making known the merits of the performing private and public bodies of the community;
- Promoting the quality performance and the best bodies brands image by granting awards;
- Boosting quality approach in public and private institutions in order to strive for excellence;
- Increasing collaboration and exchanges between bodies of the various States;
- Contributing to strengthening the quality culture among the peoples of the various States, in addition to specific State actions, in particular through the National Quality Awards (NQA)
- Developing the confidence of consumers with regards to goods produced in the ECOWAS zone.

Article 2: GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 Conditions for participation

1. Be a duly established body in ECOWAS zone in accordance with regulations in force and having been awarded between 2 editions of the ECOWAS Quality Award in the framework of Level 4 National Quality Award (NQA) of one's State. For the first edition of the Regional Award, the competing applicants to be considered shall be the awarded bodies of the most recent edition of the National Awards

The specific cases shall be processed, at the request of the states, by the Secretariat of the Award.

2. Organizations are classified according to their size as:

- Large private or public organizations - Category A (more than 100 employees)
- Middle private or public organizations - Category B (more than 20 employees and less than 100 employees)
- Small organizations - Category C (from 1 to 20 employees)

3. The participation fee shall be defined at each edition by the Organizing Committee,
taking into account the:

- Categorization of each organization,

2.2. Presentation of the Awards

5 Awards are offered to organizations in each category:

- ECOWAS Quality Award,
- Special Awards related to the:

  - ✓ Leadership
  - ✓ Product Development
  - ✓ Resources Management

✓ Stakeholders orientation

The decision panel may grant several special awards to the same organization.
The decision panel may also award several organizations with the same type of award.

Article 3: BODIES

The various bodies of the award are as follows:

- The organizing committee;
- The decision panel;
- The technical secretariat;
- The appointed auditors.

3.1. <u>The Organizing Committee (OC)</u>

3.1.1. Composition

ECOWAS Commission is responsible for the organization of the Award which sets up its own ad hoc organizing committee led by the Directorate in charge of Quality.

The members of the Organizing Committee are appointed by the Commission, for one edition.

They shall have skills in terms of organization, communication and logistics.

3.1.2. Missions

The mission of the OC is to carry out the following main tasks:

- Launching the Award,
- Raising Funds
- Communicating and promoting the Award,
- Organizing the recruitment and the training of auditors
- Organizing the awards ceremony.
- Selecting assessors auditors from the list of qualified assessors auditors;
- Establishing the list of assessors auditors so established

For this purpose, it relies on a technical secretariat (see 3.3).

3.1.3 Organization and Operation of the OC

For the operation of the OC, the Commission shall appoint:

- A President,
- A Vice-President,

who are accountable to it.
No secretary of the OC is appointed, the secretariat is provided by the Technical Secretariat (see 3.3).

In addition, the OC has the ability to set up special commissions for specific topics and projects, or call for relevant resources persons.

31.4. Roles of the organizing committee members

3a). The President

He/she convenes and presides over the meetings according to the established and adopted agenda relying on the technical secretariat.

b) The Vice-President

He /she replaces the President in case of absence or failure.

3.2. Decision Panel

The status, missions, organization of the selection panel and the assessment criteria are defined in the Rules of Procedures of the Decision Panel.

3.3. The Technical Secretariat

3.3.1. Composition

The technical secretariat is provided by the Directorate of Industry and Mines or any other permanent structure of ECOWAS in charge of Quality policy.

3.3.2. Missions

The various missions of the Technical Secretariat are to ensure, on behalf of the OC:

- The provision of applications files,
- The receipt of applications filled,
- The classification of application on the basis of self-assessment questionnaires;
- The receipt of the list of assessors auditors and its transmission to the OC;
- The establishment of the official list of applications

It also provides the:

- Coordination between the various stakeholders,
- Budgeting,
- Preparatory works (e.g. mission of assessors auditors, information of the applicant organizations, preparation of files, coordination and preparation of meetings of the OC ...)
- Logistics
- Office automation,
- Different administrative and financial tasks relying as necessary on national focal points (like the technical secretariat of the National Quality Award)
- Any other administrative task related to the organization of the Award

3.3.3 Organization, operation of the Technical Secretariat and the role of its members

The permanent structure of ECOWAS in charge of Quality Policy shall organize the Technical Secretariat in order to achieve the missions assigned to it (see above).

It shall also define the role of each member of its secretariat.

3.4. The appointed Assessors Auditors

3.4.1. Composition of the assessment audit team

The assessment audit teams consist of:

- an assessor auditor team leader in charge of the implementation of the entire assessment audit and the report,
- an assessor auditor
- a supervisor audit coordinator for all the states participating in the ECOWAS Quality Award.

3.4.2. Missions

The audit team's mission is to conduct audits, assessment of applicant organizations and produce the audit assessment report with its scoring grid provided.

The audit supervisor coordinator shall participate in all audits assessment; ensure methodological consistency and uniformity of the implemented procedures. He/she is responsible for ensuring the correct rating of companies and shall present to the decision panel the results that he shall explain if necessary.

3.4.3. Organization and operation

The organization and operation of the audit committees shall be based on the audit procedures of adopted in the framework of the ECOWAS Quality Award.

3.4.3. Roles of each member of the audit team

The roles of each member of the Audit team are inspired from the audit procedures of ECOWAS

To ensure the confidentiality of the deliberations, each auditor shall sign (preceded by the words read and approved, and good for application) a "Privacy Policy" and a "code of ethics".

3.5. The Rewards and the validity of the Award

3.5.1. Rewards related to the Award

- Concerning all the awards a trophy and a certificate shall be granted.
- The Commission shall decide to grant, on a proposal of the organizing committee or decision panel, additional benefits to winners.
-

3.5.2. Validity of the Awards

The ECOWAS Quality Award and special Awards are valid for the award year. The information should always include the award year (e.g. ECOWAS Quality Award 2016)

3.6. Appeals and complaints

The appeals and complaints are forwarded to the Technical Secretariat 15 days after the announcement of the results, with acknowledgment of receipt. The Technical Secretariat has seven (7) business days to respond.

3.7. Review procedure

These General Regulations may be reviewed by the Commission on the proposal of the Technical Secretariat of the Award.

Article 4: Entry into force and publication

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON DECEMBER 17, 2013

.....

H.E. Mr. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNITE ECONOMIQUE DES
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16-17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.18/12/13 APPROVING THE HARMONIZEDSTANDARD ECOSTAND-001- 2013 (E) FOR RICE GRAINS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 26 of the said ECOWAS Treaty which stipulates that Member States shall harmonize and coordinate their industrialization policies for the promotion of industrial development and integration of their economies;

MINDFUL of the provisions of Article 26 paragraph 3 of the Treaty, in particular in point L, which commits Member States to adopt common standards and appropriate quality control systems, to create a solid base for industrialization and promote collective self-reliance;

MINDFUL of the Supplementary Act A/SA. 07/02/10 of 2nd July 2010 adopting the West African Common Industrial Policy (WACIP);

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG. 14/12/12 approving procedures for harmonizing ECOWAS standards;

RECALLING that one of the important missions of ECOWAS in the harmonization of policies and regional integration is to promote the development and harmonization of standards, procedures and compliance assessment measures to reduce technical barriers to trade and to encourage intra regional and international trades while increasing the industrialization of the region;

ALSO RECALLING that in accordance with Regulation C/REG.14/12/12 approving procedures for harmonizing ECOWAS standards, it should proceed with the approval of standards for products;

NOTING that after the initial works of the Technical Committee on Harmonization of agricultural products, rice grains were selected for the purpose of standardization to facilitate trade not only within ECOWAS, but for international trade;

ALSO NOTING that this standard specifies the requirements for husked, milled and parboiled rice (Oryza sativa L. species) meant for human consumption, that is, being ready for the intended use for human nutrition , provided in packaged form or sold loose directly from packaging to the consumer, and that it also defines the classification, sampling and testing methods for rice;

DESIROUS of approving the harmonized standard ECOSTAND- 001-2013 (E) on rice grains to facilitate trade not only within ECOWAS, but also in international trade;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Meeting of Ministers in charge of standardization in ECOWAS Member States held in Abidjan (Republic of Côte d' Ivoire) on 27 November, 2013;

E N A C T S

ARTICLE 1

By this Regulation, the attached harmonized standard ECOSTAND- 001-2013 (E) for rice grains is hereby approved.

ARTICLE 2

Member States, the Commission and all other ECOWAS institutions are to ensure compliance with the standard as defined in Article 1 of this Regulation.

ARTICLE 3

The ECOWAS Commission shall publish this Regulation in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days following notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

OF COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES.

SEVENTY FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 to 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.19/12/13 ADOPTING THE SCHEME FOR THE ECOWAS REGIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions,

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.1/02/13 adopting the ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL) and its implementation framework;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.2/07/10 adopting the West Africa Common Industrial Policy (WACIP /PICAO) and its actions plan;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG. 14/12/12 adopting the ECOWAS Standards Harmonization Procedures (ECOSHAM);

CONSIDERING that in view of the technical aspect of the quality concept, a need arises to put in place a regional Quality Standards Scheme;

CONSIDERING that the set up of a regional Quality Standards Scheme within the ECOWAS zone requires the establishment of adequate technical and scientific facilities;

CONSIDERING that a scheme for the harmonization of the accreditation, compliance assessment, standardization and metrology activities shall contribute towards the improvement of the trade of goods and services both within the community and world wide and the creation of a framework of actions aiming at deepening and consolidating the common market while ensuring a better protection of economic operators and including the consumers;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Meeting of the Ministers in charge of the ECOWAS Quality held at Abidjan on 27 November 2013;

ENACTS

CHAPTER I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: Definitions

1. All the definitions listed in the following three international instruments are applicable in the context of this Regulation:

   - International vocabulary of general and basic terms of Metrology (VIM)
   - ISO 9000 «Quality Management Systems - Fundamentals and vocabulary"
   - ISO IEC 17000 "Compliance assessment - Vocabulary and general principles"

2. These definitions are not included in this Regulation to take constantly into account their last applicable official version. They are supplemented by the following definitions:

ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States;

Member State: any Member State of ECOWAS;

Commission: the ECOWAS Commission as created by the provisions of the Article 17 of the ECOWAS Revised Treaty;

BIPM: International Bureau of Weights and Measures;

IEC: International Electro technical Commission;

Compliance assessment: the demonstration that specified requirements relating to a product, process, system, person or body are fulfilled

ISO: International Organization for Standardization;

Quality infrastructure: the whole institutional framework (public or private) required to establish and implement the standardization, metrology (scientific, industrial and legal), accreditation and compliance assessment services (inspection, testing and calibration, and certification of products and systems) required to provide acceptable evidence that products and services meet specified requirements, may they be required by the regulatory authorities (technical regulation) or market (contractually or implied);

Compliance Brand: the recognized symbol by a State or by the Commission demonstrating the compliance of a product or a service.

Meteorology: the science of measurement and its applications. It covers all both theoretical and practical aspects related to measurements, regardless of the uncertainty of the latter in any field of science whatsoever.

Standardization: exact activity to perform facing actual or potential problems, provisions intended for common and repeated use, to obtain the optimum degree of order in a given context activity. This activity covers in particular, the formulation, dissemination and implementation of standards.

Standards: The document approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated uses, related production rules, guidelines or characteristics for products or processes and procedures, the compliance of which is not mandatory. It may also include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, packaging requirements, marking or labeling requirements for a product, a service, a process or a given production method;

OIML International Organization of Legal Metrology;

Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT): Barriers to regional and international trade in goods and services resulting from:

- the divergence of standards and technical regulations,
- the inconsistent application of such standards and technical regulations, or
- the non-recognition including compliance assessment systems, registrations or approvals.

Technical Regulation: the document which lays down product characteristics or their related processes and production methods related thereto, including administrative provisions that apply, with which compliance is mandatory. It may also include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, requirements of packaging, marking or labeling requirements for a product, a service, a process or a given production method;

Article 2: **Purpose**

1. This Regulation aims at defining and adopting the scheme for the harmonization of standardization, metrology, compliance assessment, accreditation and quality promotion activities within the ECOWAS zone, in accordance with guidelines set by the ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL).

2. The implementation of this scheme is to promote:

- the free movement of goods and services within the Community as well as the rest of the world, including the gradual elimination of technical barriers to trade;

- mutual recognition of national regulations and standards in a community framework and increasing the competitiveness of goods and services on the market, creating a favorable environment for their free movement;

- the enjoyment of the rights by the Member States and respect of their obligations under the World Trade Organization Agreements (WTO) and other cooperation Agreements;

- creativity and innovation, the development of trade in goods and services that are the subject of intellectual property rights, the promotion of sustainable development and the protection of consumers;

- the capacity building of the Member States in the development and application of rules relating to accreditation, certification, standardization and metrology in order to promote quality;

- the involvement of the ECOWAS Member States in activities of international and regional standards, accreditation and metrology organizations.

Article 3: Scope

This Regulation applies to the technical activities intended to ensure the quality of goods and services in the Community, including the standardization, metrology, technical regulation and compliance assessment (analysis and testing, certification, inspection). It contributes to the free movement of goods and services within the ECOWAS zone.

Article 4: General Principles of Compliance

1) The ECOWAS Member States have all joined the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Therefore, they are required to develop quality infrastructures that meet international standards to reduce the Technical Bureau to Trade (TBT). This commitment contributes significantly to improving the free movement of goods and services within the ECOWAS zone; a principle considered as a priority for the Commission.

2) To meet this commitment and better participate in the international trade, the Member States must implement, for all the areas covered by the Regional Quality Policy, the International Guidelines on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) enacted in the framework of the WTO Agreements.

3) According to these principles, the Member States shall:

   a. avoid developing, adopting and implementing non required standards, technical regulations, accreditation, compliance assessment procedures and metrology measures;

   b. identify and eliminate permanently, the said barriers to the free movement of goods and services;

   c. grant to goods and services from other Member States with regard to standards-related measures, authorization procedures and metrology, a national treatment no less favorable than that granted to the similar goods and services in any other country;

   d. prepare, adopt, implement and maintain measures relating to standardization, authorization procedures and metrology that allow them to achieve their legitimate objectives;

   e. adopt consistent methods and harmonized procedures to determine, declare and eliminate these barriers identified by means of an appropriate community information system.

CHAPTER II: SCHEME OF THE REGIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Article 5: Presentation of the regional quality Scheme

1. The ECOWAS regional quality scheme including the attached organizational chart is hereby approved.

2. The regional quality scheme is steered by the ECOWAS Commission through the three operational levels below:

a. regional quality structures established by the ECOWAS Commission, including a Department in charge of the quality and the specialized structures, Community technical councils or committees consisting of the representatives from the States;

b. national structures with regional vocation entrusted with certain regional technical missions by the Commission;

c. existing national quality structures (or to be put in place by the Member States where they do not exist) and responsible for the implementation of the national quality policy developed in line with the regional quality policy (ECOQUAL).

3. The regional quality structures are directly administered by the ECOWAS Commission to implement the regional technical missions entrusted to the Commission by the Regional Quality Policy. They include structures established within the Commission, or technically independent of it, as well as the community technical councils and committees. The latter, consisting of representatives from the Member States, are set up to rely on the expertise from the countries in the management or implementation of some regional technical missions. They also provide an appropriate framework for cooperation among the Member States in the design and decision making for the quality promotion in the region. The Technical Secretariat of the Councils or community technical committees is usually managed by the Commission or by an external competent structure.

4. The national structures with a regional vocation are geographically located in a Member State but have regional outreach. They are appointed by the Commission on a proposal from the Directorate of Quality due to their level of technical progress in a given field of regional interest. They operate under the authority of the country but are assigned operational responsibilities throughout the ECOWAS zone for the given field of competence. The management of these national structures with a regional vocation shall be subject of a particular regulation.

5. The national quality structures are exclusively the responsibility of the Member States. Their activities should be conducted in line with the regional dynamics as defined in Chapters III and IV of this Regulation. They are responsible for implementing the national quality policy, which must be established in compliance with the regional quality policy, according to the rules of mutual recognition and harmonization of practices.

Article 6: Role and responsibilities of the ECOWAS Commission

1. Pursuant to Article 19 of the ECOWAS Treaty of 1993, the Commission is responsible for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of all the activities related to the implementation of the Regional Quality Policy.

2. To this end, it shall perform the following general tasks:

a. Committing the Council of Ministers of ECOWAS to take any rules required for the implementation of the ECOWAS quality policy,
b. Establishing the different structures of the Regional Quality Infrastructure as provided by this Regulation,
c. Adopting the Execution Regulations required for the implementation of this Regulation,
d. Involving the West African private sector, relevant international technical institutions including donors respectively in the technical implementation and funding of the Regional Quality Policy activities,
e. Informing the Governments of the Member State about the implementation of the Regional Quality Policy and sensitizing them on the national measures to be taken for the quality promotion in the region,
f. Providing the structures of the regional quality infrastructure with the required resources for the implementation of their activities and proposing a regional strategy for the financing of the activities related to quality.

3. The Commission is also authorized to approve by means of Execution Regulations the regional standards developed in accordance with ECOSHAM procedures adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Article 7: Creation of regional quality structures:

1. A Regional Quality Infrastructure (RQI/IRQ) is created in accordance with the Regional Quality Policy and responsible for supporting, advising and making the necessary recommendations to the Member States as well as the ECOWAS Commission for the establishment and operation of the Regional Quality Infrastructure.

2. To this end, the ECOWAS Commission is authorized to create or appoint the following:
a. A technical directorate within itself in charge of quality,
b. A Community Council for Quality (CCQ),
c. A Community Committee for Metrology (CCM),
d. A Community Committee for Compliance Assessment (CCEV/CCCA),
e. A Regional System for Accreditation (RSA),
f. A Community Committee for Technical Regulation (CCTR),
g. National structures with a regional vocation in the different areas of quality.

3. The Management Committee established under the Regulation on the scheme and for standards harmonization procedures constitutes the Community Committee for Standardization.

4. The Commission may establish any other required technical committee to implement the ECOWAS Quality Policy.

5. The Commission has the responsibility to provide these structures with all the required means to carry out their missions.

Article 8: Missions of the regional quality structures

1) Missions of the Directorate in charge of Quality at the ECOWAS Commission

According to the Regional Quality Policy, the Directorate responsible for the quality will be in charge of:

a. **Preparing the implementation of the general tasks mentioned above in Article 6 and their monitoring by the Commission;**

b. Ensuring the Permanent Secretariats of the Community Quality Council and Community Technical Committees established or to be set up as required; To this effect, it provides mainly logistical support towards the meetings organization of the latter and ensures, where necessary, the transmission of the results of their proceedings to the ECOWAS authorities for validation or to the Member States.

c. **Ensuring the management of a Regional Compliance Brand with regional standards**

d. Ensuring the quality promotion:
   - **Managing a Regional Quality Award**
   - **Informing and raising awareness on the quality and taking the quality oriented incentives**
   - **Providing information and protection of consumers in respect of quality**

2) Missions of the Community Council for Quality

a. The Community Council for Quality (CCQ) has the general duties to assist the Commission in the implementation of the community policy in terms of quality.

b. The CCQ coordinates the activities of the five community committees in the fields of Standardization, Metrology, Compliance Assessment, Accreditation and Technical Regulation.

c. It deliberates in full independence and shall, where necessary, transmit the results of its proceedings for validation by the ECOWAS authorities through the Department of the Commission in charge of quality.

Missions of the Community Standards Committee (CSC)

3. The missions of the Community Standards Committee are defined in Article 5.2.4 of the Rule related to the scheme and procedures of standards harmonization (ECOSHAM).

Missions of Community Committee for Metrology (CCM)

4. The Community Committee for Metrology mission is to assist the ECOWAS Commission to carry out the tasks related to metrology, as defined in the quality policy of ECOWAS.

Missions of the Community Committee for Compliance Assessment (CCCA)

5. The Community Committee for Compliance Assessment (CCCA) shall, according to the three technical fields, have the following missions:

I. **Concerning analysis and testing**

a. Ensuring the harmonization of analysis and testing methods
b. Proposing to the Commission national analysis and testing laboratories to entrust them with regional missions in the priority areas
c. Encouraging the establishment of a regional network of accredited laboratories

II. **Concerning product certification**

a. Adopting the general rules of management of the regional compliance brand with ECOWAS standards;
b. Ensuring the mandating records' technical validation of the national standards boards for the grant of the compliance brand with the regional standards.

III. **Concerning inspection**

a. Ensuring the harmonization of inspection methods and techniques through the development of relevant guidelines;
b. Proposing mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of guidelines for the inspection through the relevant departments and the Member States.

Missions of the Regional Accreditation System (RAS)

6. The ECOWAS Regional Accreditation System includes a West African Forum of Cooperation in Accreditation (FOACA) and Evaluation Committee for the Products Certification Bodies

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7. West African Forum of Cooperation in Accreditation (FOACA)

1. The FOACA is a cooperation forum in Accreditation of the ECOWAS sub-regional and national accreditation bodies. The membership as a full member of FOACA requires prior mutual recognition based on the principle of peer review.

2. With the purposes to rationalize resources and harmonize the regional accreditation procedures, the Regional Accreditation System shall encourage the establishment of regional accreditation bodies involving at least two Member States. To this effect, a subsidy shall be annually granted to the regional entities in proportion to the number of countries joining. The Directorate responsible for the quality shall be represented in the governing body of the accreditation bodies entitled to a regional grant. The grant amounts and the terms of the grant will be specified by the execution regulations issued by the Commission.

3. The FOACA missions are as follows:
   a. Coordinating the cooperation between national and sub-regional accreditation bodies established for the benefit of the region, in accordance with the principle of territoriality;

b. Defining the membership criteria to the Regional Accreditation System and Mutual Recognition of the organizations of that system;
c. Establishing the relevant technical committees
d. Establishing a regional network of peer reviewers (Quality and Technical)
e. Evaluating the accreditation bodies owned or seeking recognition by the SRA;
f. Ensuring that the skills of the assessment bodies for compliance of ECOWAS are internationally recognized
g. Ensuring the harmonization of accreditation procedures in the region, particularly by encouraging the accreditation structures consisting it at their mutual recognition by the existing regional and international forums (AFRAC, ILAC and IAF).
h. Ensuring that all accreditation services are available in the region and at an affordable cost.
i. Cooperating with regional and international cooperation forums for accreditation (including AFRAC, ILAC, IAF)
j. Promoting the accreditation in the region.

The Assessment Committee of the National Certification Bodies

8. This Committee is responsible for:

1. Defining assessment rules and procedures of national certification bodies of products in the framework of their entrustment for the issuance of the compliance regional Brand to ECOWAS standards
2. Ensuring the assessment of national certification bodies in ECOWAS Member States for their entrustment

9. The Community Committee for Technical Regulations

The mission of the Community Committee for Technical Regulations is to assist the ECOWAS Commission to carry out the tasks related to technical regulations as defined in the ECOWAS Regional Quality Policy. The Committee shall, inter alia provide guidelines for the development and implementation of national technical Regulations and monitor their implementation.

10. Missions of the national quality structures with a regional vocation

1. On the proposal of the Directorate in charge of Quality, the Commission may appoint these highly technically advanced national structures in a specific area (and if possible, already having an international recognition of accreditation type) as "national quality structures with regional vocation "in this area.

2. The missions of these national structures with regional vocation and the conditions of their implementation shall be specified by means of an execution Regulation taken by the Commission.

Article 9 : Responsibilities, composition, organization and operation of the regional quality structures

1. The responsibilities, composition, organization and operation of the regional quality structures shall be specified by means of the Execution Regulation of this Regulation taken by the Commission.

2. The composition of the Quality Council and the various Community Committees shall take into account a balanced representation of all the concerned stakeholders. The Commissions of ECOWAS and WAEMU, the regional federations of the private sector, the consumers associations should be particularly represented.

3. The establishment of the Council and the various committees and sub-committees and system shall particularly ensure a sufficient representation of the private sector.

CHAPTER III – STRENGTHENING AND HARMONIZATION OF THE QUALITY POLICIES

Article 10 : Strengthening of the compliance assessment

1. The Member States shall establish and strengthen their compliance assessment systems and establish their recognition through accreditation.

2. The regional and national organizations involved in accreditation activities and compliance assessment should refer to the guidelines and standards of international Standardization bodies such as the International Organization for Standards (ISO) or the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC/CEI).

3. The Member States shall implement harmonized standards and procedures for the inspection and testing of products and services traded in the ECOWAS zone, so that the results can be interpreted and coordinated more easily and uniformly. They shall use harmonized documentation for the assessment of the quality of products and services traded in the Region

4. The Member States shall facilitate the controls and movement of samples within ECOWAS zone to improve the trade in cooperation with the customs authorities and other competent authorities

Article 11 : Harmonization of Standardization activities

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the Regulation on the scheme and procedures for harmonization of standards (ECOSHAM), the Member States shall ensure:

   a. creating national standardization bodies if they do not exist, adopting regional and international practices in terms of standards development and building their technical and legal capacities in accordance with international guidelines.

b. promoting and applying technical regulations and standards similar to the international principles to ensure adequate protection of their people and their environment.

c. adopting standards related to quality management systems that are acceptable and likely to strengthen the quality assurance capacities of products and services traded in the Community.

Article 12 : Development of technical regulations

1) The technical regulations are formulated so as not to cause unnecessary technical barriers to trade.

2) The Member States shall enact into law technical regulations that are consistent with, simple, transparent, involving administrative and enforcement costs as low as possible.

3) The Member States shall ensure their mutual information by means of notification procedures established by this Regulation for the harmonization of their technical regulations within the Community

4) The Member States shall submit to the Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission in charge of the quality the proposals of development of community-based texts within their areas of competence.

Article 13 : Use of International Rules of Metrology

1) In the framework of their metrology activities, the Member States shall rely on the **Meter Convention**, the International System of Units (IS/SI) and the provisions of agreements signed under the International Bureau of Weights and Measurements (IBWM/BIPM) and the International Organization of Legal Metrology (IOLM/OIML). The ECOWAS Member States shall:

a. adopt the International System of Units (IS/SI) and undertake to develop in the shortest possible time necessary strategies to adapt their national structures to technological changes resulting therein, so that the measurement systems of ECOWAS meet international requirements.

b. ensure traceability of their metrology based on the International Bureau of Weights and Measurements (BIPM) procedures.

c. adopt the requirements and documents of the International Organization of Legal Metrology (IOLM/OIML).

Article 14 : Market Control

Community provisions relating to inspection and market control should be subject of a regulation.

CHAPTER IV: PROVISIONS FOR THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION

Article 15 : Principle of mutual recognition

1) The Member States shall opt for the principle of mutual recognition within ECOWAS zone as a progressive and flexible way to implement rules relating to the free movement of goods and services and to the barriers limitation.

2) The Member States, in the framework of the common market, shall ensure the existence of a coherent combination between harmonized legislation, standards and compliance control instruments.

Article 16 : Levels of mutual recognition

1. The mutual recognition of the quality or compliance of goods and services between Member States takes place at the three levels as follows:

   a. recognition of standards and technical regulations;

   b. recognition of compliance assessment procedures, which assumes that each Member State accepts the assessment procedures and the assessment reports of other Member States as equivalent to its own;

   c. recognition of compliance assessment procedures results which implies that each Member State recognizes the testing results, the certificates of compliance and brands and compliance inspections of other Member States.

Article 17 : Equivalence and national treatment principle

1. Each Member State shall accept on its territory any good or service that meets a technical regulation or a compliance assessment procedure adopted by another Member State and considered as equivalent to its own, when the exporting State, in collaboration with the importing State proves to the latter that the product is legally manufactured or marketed in its territory.

2. At the request of the exporting Member State, the importing Member State shall notify in writing and in the manner of information set between Member States, the reasons why it does not accept a technical regulation or compliance assessment procedure of the exporting Member State as equivalent.

3. The Member States, in case of discrepancies, shall engage in discussions to evaluate the barriers to this free movement and allow Member States to prepare and harmonize

the technical requirements or compliance assessment procedures for the good or service concerned.

Article 18 : The precautionary principle and risks assessment

1. To meet its legitimate objectives, each Member State may proceed with the risks assessment and be led to maintain or enact restrictions impeding the free movement of goods and services.

2. A Member State which proceeds with a risks assessment shall take into account the:
   a. similar risks assessments conducted by international organizations;
   b. scientific evidence and all available technical information;
   c. implementation techniques of the concerned good or service;
   d. full and accurate uses intended for good or service;
   e. processes or production methods likely to modify the characteristics of the good or service;
   f. operating, compliance assessment methods and environmental parameters.

3. The Member States shall make available relevant documentation for risks assessment procedures they considered in determining the level of protection for the concerned prohibition or restriction measures.

Article 19 : Transparency requirements and notification of exceptions to the free movement

1. The Member States shall inform the Commission of the notifications made to the WTO under the TBT/ Agreement. These notifications are made in the manner of presentation set out in the WTO Agreement on TBT.

2. The Commission shall make an annual review of these restrictions.

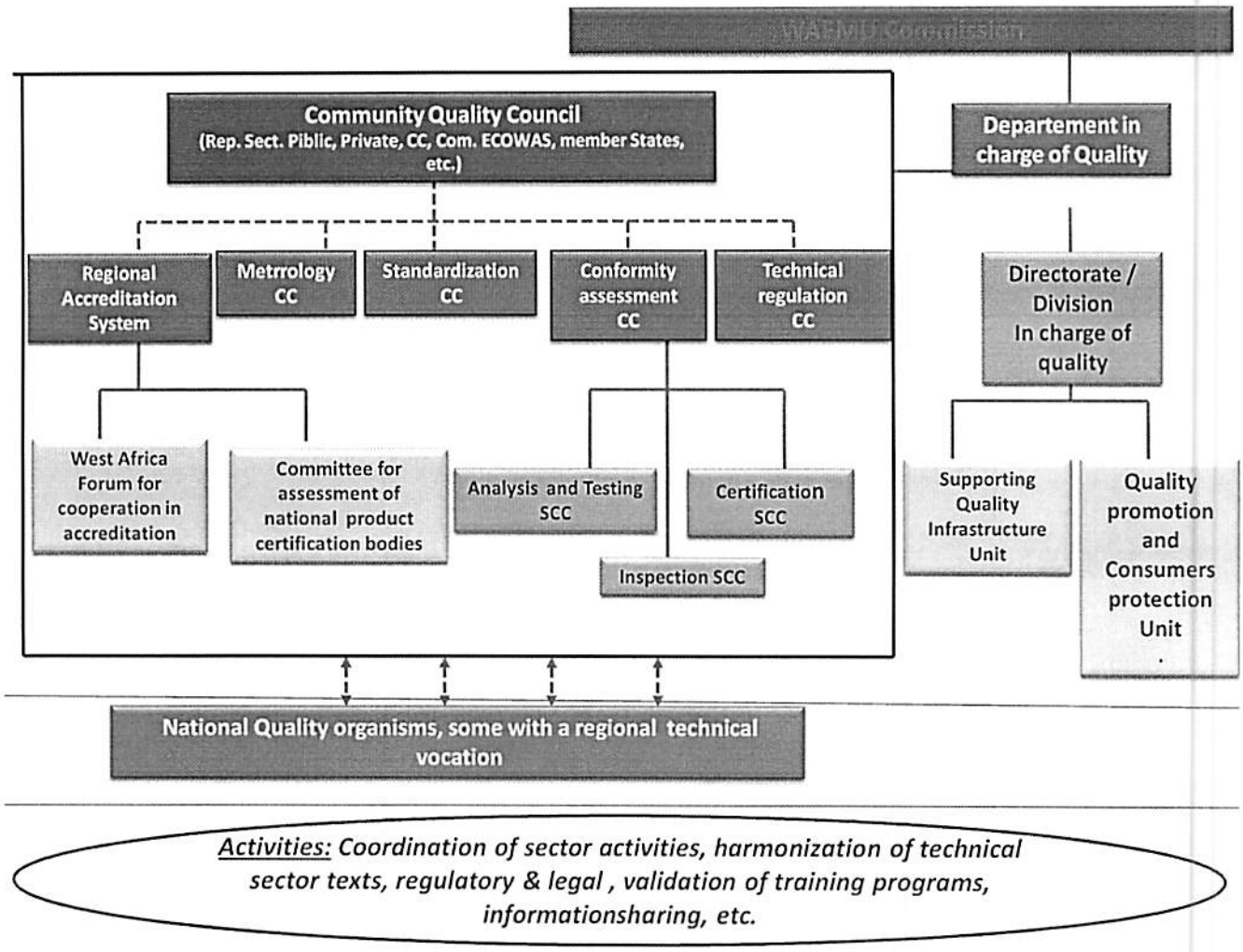
Article 20 : Transparency requirements and notification of barriers to the free movement

1. When the Commission is required to note the existence in a Member State of a clear barrier, characterized and not justified on the free movement of good and services and therefore it constitutes a means of arbitrary discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade between Member States in compliance with the ECOWAS Treaty, it shall:

   a. notify this fact to the Member State concerned, after consulting the competent technical body responsible for assessing the level of the barrier and/or the quality of the procedure in question;

   b. **request that** Member State to take all necessary and proportionate measures to remove this barrier in a period determined in accordance with the emergency.

Scheme of the ECOWAS Regional Quality Infrastructure



Activities: Coordination of sector activities, harmonization of technical sector texts, regulatory & legal , validation of training programs, informationsharing, etc.

Article 21 : General Mutual Information System

1. Each Member State shall provide to the Directorate of the Commission in charge of the quality and to the other Member States with all information relating to standards activities, technical regulations, and compliance assessment procedures, accreditation and metrology.

2. The Member States shall provide the Directorate of the Commission in charge of the quality with all national standards and all legal and regulatory rules in force concerned by this Regulation. They shall inform it about mandatory technical specifications.

CHAPTER V – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 22 : Intra-Community and international technical assistance

1. The Member States shall provide mutual assistance to one another through a technical and scientific assistance of their relevant structures and involve economic operators and consumers in the Community to concertation works.

2. The Commission is empowered to appeal to non-Member States of ECOWAS and all organizations or entities likely to provide it with necessary technical, scientific and financial assistance.

Article 23 : Repeal

This Regulation shall repeal and replace any previous provision and otherwise.

Article 24 : Entry into force and publication

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES.

SEVENTY FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 to 17 December 2013.

REGULATION C /REG.20/12/13 ESTABLISHING THE ECOWAS QUALITY AWARD

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL the Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Revised Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions,

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.1/02/13 adopting the ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL) and its implementation framework;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.2/07/10 adopting the West Africa Common Industrial Policy (WACIP /PICAO) and its actions plan;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.14.5.82 relating to the ECOWAS Excellence Award;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG. 14/12/12 adopting the ECOWAS Standards Harmonization Procedures (ECOSHAM);

CONSIDERING the need to define the procedures for awarding the ECOWAS Award;

RECALLING the Resolution C/RES.2/11/91 of the Council of Ministers held from 20th to 22nd November 1991 in Lomé (TOGO);

ENACTS

Article 1: Creation

It is created within the ECOWAS zone an Award called « ECOWAS QualityAward." The ECOWAS Quality Award is organized every two (2) years.

Article 2: Objectives

The ECOWAS Quality Award has the following objectives:

- Promoting the quality within the Community by recognizing the merits of the performing private and public bodies of the Community;
- Enhancing the quality and image performances of the best branding businesses of ECOWAS by granting awards;
- Boosting the quality process in public and private institutions in order to strive for excellence;
- Increasing the collaboration and exchange between organizations of the different Member States of the Community;
- Contributing to strengthening the quality culture within the people of the different Member States, in addition to states own actions, in particular through the National Quality Award (NQA/PNQ)
- Developing consumer confidence with respect to goods and services produced and provided in the Community.

Article 3: Types and Categories of Awards

The Applicant organizations are classified into three categories according to their size. For each category, five types of awards are granted.

3.1. Categories

The Organizations are categorized according to their size in:

- Category A: Large public or private organizations (over 100 employees)

- Category B: Middle private or public organizations (more than 20 and less than 100 employees)
- Category C: Small organizations - (from 1 to 20 employees)

3.2. Types of Awards

Five (5) Types of Awards are granted by type of organization:

- The ECOWAS Quality Award,
- Four special Awards related to:

  ✓ Leadership
  ✓ Product Realization
  ✓ Resource Management
  ✓ Orientation to stakeholders

Article 4: Conditions for participation

Any private or public body duly registered in the ECOWAS zone in accordance with the regulations in force and that meets the conditions for participation specified in the General Regulations of the Award can participate to the ECOWAS Quality Award.

Article 5: Organization of the Award

1. For the award of the ECOWAS Quality Award, the ECOWAS Commission sets up:

   ✓ an ad hoc organizing committee
   ✓ a decision panel composed of representatives of all the Member States of the Community,

2. The organization, composition and operation procedures of the decision panel and the organizing committee shall be specified by the Execution Regulations made by the ECOWAS Commission.

Article 6: **Nature of the Award**

The Awards are granted as a trophies and certificate.
The ECOWAS Commission may, on the proposal of the organizing committee or the decision panel, decide to grant to the winners additional benefits.

Article 7: **Funding**

The ECOWAS Commission shall provide the resources necessary for the proper organization of the various editions of the ECOWAS Quality Award. The Commission reserves the right to resort to public and private partners to contribute financially to the organization of the ECOWAS Quality Award.

Article 8: **Official ceremony of results announcement and Awards Granting**

The results of the Award are announced and the various trophies are awarded to the various winners during a regional event bringing the maximum authorities of the Member States as well as bodies of ECOWAS. The choice of the event and venue are proposed by the ECOWAS Commission.

Article 9 **Entry into force and publication**

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

SEVENTY-FIRST SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.21/12/13 ON THE ADOPTION OF THE 2014-2018 ECOWAS REGIONAL STATISTICAL PROGRAMME

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONVINCED of the importance of statistical information in the development and integration of the West African region;

NOTING the inadequate functioning of national statistical systems of Member States in the production of reliable and up-to-date data relating to Member States;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

CONSCIOUS that statistics constitutes a public good for which sustainable funding for its production is primarily the duty of Member States;

DETERMINED to strengthen the regional mechanism for the production, harmonization and dissemination of statistical information necessary for the monitoring of economic and social development in the ECOWAS region;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Technical Commission on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, at its meeting in Abidjan on 9 to 13 September 2013;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Meeting of Ministers in charge of Statistics held in Abidjan on 9 to 12 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: Adoption of the Regional Statistical Programme

The Regional Statistical Programme of the ECOWAS Commission 2014-2018 is hereby adopted as attached to this Regulation.

Article 2: Responsibility For Execution

The ECOWAS Commission, in close collaboration with Member States and sub-regional organisations, shall take appropriate measures to implement the programme.

Article 3: Objectives

1. The objective of this statistical development programme for West Africa is to create the conditions for each country in the Region to have the capacity to produce the minimum statistical information necessary for decision-making by national authorities and the international Community as well as socio-economic operators.

2. More particularly, the programme is designed to better meet the needs of multilateral and commercial surveillance systems as well

as the monetary integration objectives of West Africa and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The quest for this minimum information will take into account the requirements on quality, comparability, timeliness, integrity and availability of data for users. To this effect, it has national and regional components.

Article 4: Coordination of the Regional Statistical Programme

1. The ECOWAS Commission, in close collaboration with Member States, shall be responsible for the preparation of annual programmes and for the monitoring of the implementation of actions, in conformity with the objectives of the programme.

2. Necessary arrangements will be made by the ECOWAS Commission for the sensitization of all national, regional and international Stakeholders involved in the implementation of the programme and to ensure effective functioning of national statistical systems.

Article 5: Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Directors of Statistics of Member States shall undertake continuous assessment of the implementation of the programme and formulate necessary guidelines for its efficient execution.

2. Final evaluation of the programme will be done in 2018 by The ECOWAS Commission in order to design a possible successor to the programme.

Article 6: Funding of the Regional Statistical Programme

1. The ECOWAS Commission shall mobilize funding for the implementation of the regional component of the programme.

2. Funding for the national component of the programme will be mobilised by each Member State Government, with the assistance of the ECOWAS Commission.

3. In order to sustain effective functioning of national statistical systems, particularly through adequate human, material and financial resources, the ECOWAS Commission shall undertake a study on the feasibility of the creation of a sustainable Fund for statistical development in West Africa. A regulation shall be adopted for the operationalization of the Fund.

Article 7: Entry Into Force

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

OF COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
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ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
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SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.22/12/13 ON THE ADOPTION OF THE ECOWAS ECOBASE DATABASE

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONVINCED of the importance of statistical information in the development and integration of the West African region;

NOTING the inadequate functioning of national statistical systems of Member States in the production of reliable and up-to-date data relating to Member States;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

CONSCIOUS that statistics constitutes a public good for which sustainable funding for its production is primarily the duty of Member States;

DETERMINED to strengthen the regional mechanism for the production, harmonization and dissemination of statistical information necessary for the monitoring of economic and social development in the ECOWAS region;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Technical Commission on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, at its meeting in Abidjan on 9 to 12 September 2013;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Ministers in charge of Statistics which took place on the 13th September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION OF THE ECOWAS ECOBASE DATABASE

By this Regulation the ECOWAS ECOBASE Database is hereby adopted.

Article 2: RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTION

The ECOWAS Commission, in close collaboration with Member States and sub-regional organisations, shall take appropriate measures for the functioning, the operationalization and the implementation the ECOBASE Database.

Article 3: OBJECTIVES

1. The overall objective of the ECOBASE Database is to automatically populate the databases designed to monitor the regional multilateral institutions (ECOWAS, WAEMU, WAMA and WAMI) on the one hand, and contribute to the reduction of the workload on Member States in terms of response to numerous requests for statistical data.

2. The ECOBASE Database is a data warehouse and it is to take care of the ongoing harmonization initiatives on national accounts,

price indices consumption, trade statistics, public finance and balance of payments.

3. The ECOBASE Database will generate the regional models for ECOMAC, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), BDSM (WAEMU) and the templates for West African Monetary Agency (WAMA), The West African Monetary Institute WAMA, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Work Bank.

Article 4: COORDINATION

1. Member States shall take appropriate measures to implement the database in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission andother Regional Institutions.

2. The ECOWAS Commission will also make appropriate arrangements for awareness and capacity building of all national, regional parties in the implementation of the ECOBASE to be assured that the effective functioning of the system.

Article 5: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The ECOWAS Commission in collaboration with the Regional Institutions and Directors of Statistics of the ECOWAS Member States will, during their regular meetings, assess the progress made on the implementation of the ECOBASE Database and formulate necessary guidelines.

Article 6: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

In order to perpetuate the effective functioning of the ECOBASE in national statistical systems, The database management will be coordinated by the Regional Institutions in charge of statistics.

The ECOWAS Commission in collaboration with Member States and regional institutions, after consultation, will choose the national most appropriate structure to receive the base ECOBASE.

The ECOWAS Commission will arrange for the posting of ECOBASE.

Article 7: ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES
ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16-17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.23/12/13 ON THE ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUNDS OF STATISTICS IN WEST AFRICA

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONVINCED of the importance of statistical information in the development and integration of the West African region;

NOTING the inadequacies in the functioning of national statistical systems of Member States in the production of reliable and up-to-date data relating to Member States;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

CONSCIOUS that statistics constitutes a public good for which sustainable funding for production is primarily the duty of Member States;

DETERMINED to strengthen the regional mechanism for the production, harmonization and dissemination of statistical information necessary for the monitoring of economic and social development in the ECOWAS region;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the ECOWAS Commission on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, Heads of National Statistics Offices, at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON RECOMMENDATION of the First meeting of ECOWAS Ministers in charge of statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR STATISTICS IN WEST AFRICA

1. An Operational and Institutional Framework for Regional Fund for sustainable development of statistics in West Africa is hereby adopted and attached to this Regulation as an integral part.

Article 2: RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTION

The ECOWAS Commission, in close collaboration with Member States and sub-regional organisations, shall take appropriate measures for the implementation and the operationalization of the Fund.

Article 3: OBJECTIVES

1. The overall objective of the Statistical Fund is to contribute to the improvement of compilation and availability of quality and harmonized statistical data by Member States.

2. Its specific objectives are as follows:
   a. Contribute to the funding and the implementation of the Regional Statistics Programme;

   b. Contribute to the funding and improvement of compilation of statistical data in the Member States relating to regional integration;

c. Provide a framework for the coordination of the actions of the technical and financial partners support to the Regional Statistics Programme.

d. Contributes to the deepening of regional integration by facilitating improvement of the production of reliable and harmonized statistics.

Article 4: MISSIONS

1.The Statistical Fund's mission is to contribute to sustainable financing of statistical activities within the Community, complementing and strengthening existing mechanisms in this field, both in the States and at the regional level.

2. In a concrete way the fund:

a. Strengthens the financing of the implementation of the Regional Statistics Programme;
b. Contributes by its possible ad hoc support to national statistical systems in particularly for new needs related to regional integration;
c. Federates through coordinated interventions of technical and financial partners in support of the Regional Statistics Programme.

3. The ECOWAS Commission, in close collaboration with Member States, shall be responsible for the operationalization, monitoring and implementation of related activities.

4. The ECOWAS Commission will make necessary arrangements for the sensitization of all national, regional and international parties involved in the implementation of the Regional Statistical Programme and to ensure effective functioning of national statistical systems.

Article 5: LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1. The fund shall be established and managed in accordance with the financial regulations of the Community and all other relevant legal texts

2. The Directors of Statistics of ECOWAS Member States shall, during their regular meetings, assess the progress made on the project implementation and shall make the necessary decisions and provide guidance.

Article 6: FUNDING

1. In order to sustain effective functioning of the national and regional statistical systems, the ECOWAS Commission shalll mobilize resources for the implementation of the Fund.

2. The main sources of finance for the Fund shall be the ECOWAS Community levy and the development partners contributions to the Fund.

Article 7: ENTRY INTO FORCE AND PUBLICATION

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN THIS 17 DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

monitoring the economic and social development in the ECOWAS region;

TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT the report of the Technical Commission on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments (Heads of National Statistics Offices), at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON RECOMMENDATION of the First Session of ECOWAS Meeting of the Ministers in charge of Statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION OF THE FRAMEWORK OF REPORTING ON THE STATE OF STATISTICS

1. The Framework of reporting on the state of statistics in West Africa is hereby adopted and attached to this Regulation as an integral part.

Article 2: RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTION

1. The ECOWAS Commission, in collaboration with the National Statistics Offices, shall take the necessary steps to make available annually, a report on the state of Statistics to the Council of Ministers. In order to facilitate the process, direct collaboration of Member States is extremely essential.

Article 3: OBJECTIVES

1. The global objective is to produce an annual report on the status of statistics in the region by the ECOWAS Commission. The report shall be submitted to the Council of Ministers for its consideration.

Article 7: ENTRY INTO FORCE AND PUBLICATION

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN THIS 17 DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16-17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.25/12/13 ESTABLISHING THE ECOWAS REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICE IN NEW YORK

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 83 (2) of the said ECOWAS Treaty enshrining the need for the Community to cooperate with regional and international organizations;

CONSIDERING Articles 52, 53 and 54 of the United Nations Charter defining the complementary roles of regional mechanisms in maintaining international peace and security as envisaged by the 1999 ECOWAS Protocol relating to the Mechanism;

CONSIDERING the increasingly important role of Regional Organizations underpinning the efforts undertaken since the 1990s to strengthen these relations;

RECALLING the UNSC Resolution 1631 (2005) which recommended improved communication between stakeholders through the establishment of liaison offices and called for the strengthening of the existing partnerships;

CONVINCED that ECOWAS' effective presence in New York will contribute substantially to supporting the necessary consultations with

a view to facilitating an enhanced understanding of regional positions on major political and security issues, and by the same token, an improved consideration of these regional positions in the United Nations decision-making process;

CONSCIOUS that the recognition of the role of regional mechanisms and regional organizations in international peace and security deserves support through the establishment of an ECOWAS office in New York as is the case with similar organizations and ensure ECOWAS involvement in important discussions namely at the level of the United Nations;

ANXIOUS of ensuring among others ECOWAS visibility at international for a;

RECALLING that since 2004, ECOWAS has been enjoying observer status at the United Nations and can, according to the United Nations procedures, establish a Permanent Mission in New York;

DESIROUS therefore of establishing an ECOWAS representational Office in New York with the view of establishing a presence in that City for the reasons outlined above.

ENACTS:

ARTICLE 1: ESTABLISHMENT

Approval is hereby given for the establishment of an ECOWAS representational Office in New York.

ARTICLE 2: OPERATING STRUCTURE

A minimum staff structure shall be approved for the office to be headed by a Head of Mission at grade D2 and supported by two (2) professionals (grade P5 and P4) and three support staff (Driver, Accounts officer and Secretary) to be established gradually.

ARTICLE 3 : MANDATE

The responsabilities of this Office shall include the following :

1. Ensuring ECOWAS Visibility at the international fora.

2. Serving as a source of information on ECOWAS activities and programmes.

3. Serving as an interface between Member States permanent missions and other regional and international Organisations.

4. Ensuring greater coordination between various stakeholders in particular, on formulation, advocacy and taking due account of regional positions.

5. Presenting and defending the region's interest on major development, peace and security issues ;

6. Facilitating the interruption and organisation of ECOWAS missions in the margins of important United Nations meetings.

7. Generally facilitating the discharge of ECOOWAS responsabilities as a permanent observer at the United Nations.

ARTICLE 4 : BUDGET

An initial budgetary allocation of UA 250. 000 shall be approved to cover the cost of establishment and operation for the year 2014.

ARTICLE 5 : **ENTRY INTO FORCE AND PUBLICATION**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the date of its signing by the Chairman of Council and shall be published by the Commission in the ECOWAS Official Journal Within thirty (30) days.

It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

FAIT A ABUJA LE 17 DECEMBRE 2013

POUR LE CONSEIL

LE PRESIDENT

S.E. M. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.26/12/13 APPOINTING THE NEW AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR ECOWAS INSTITUTIONS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONSIDERING that the Audit Committee Members for ECOWAS Institutions are appointed on the basis of the principle of rotation for a maximum term of four (4) years;

CONSIDERING that the term of the current Committee, comprising six (6) members, commenced in March 2010 and expires in February 2014;

RECALLING the terms of reference of the Audit Committee, in particular Article 5 (6a) thereof, whose mission is to submit regular reports on its activities to the Council of Ministers;

RECALLING ALSO that the current Committee comprises representatives from Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea Bissau and The Gambia;

NOTING that in order to avoid a legal vacuum, it is important to appoint representatives from other Member States;

DESIROUS of setting up a new Audit Committee with a view to ensuring unimpeded operation;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Audit Committee Meeting held in Abidjan (Republic of Cote d'Ivoire) from 9 to 13 December 2013;

HEREBY ENACTS

Article 1:

The new Audit Committee shall comprise the representatives of the following Member States: Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger and Togo.

Article 2:

The term of the Committee referred to in Article 1 of this Regulation shall run from March 2014 to February 2018.

Article 3

Two members of the outgoing Committee shall take part in the first two meetings of the new Committee with a view to assisting it at the commencement of its activities.

Article 4

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period upon notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

Seventy-First Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.27/12/13 APPROVING THE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF ECOWAS INSTITUTIONS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the terms of reference for the Audit Committee of ECOWAS Institutions;

CONSIDERING the need for the Audit Committee to adopt a revised terms of reference to effectively perform its functions;

DESIROUS of approving the revised terms of reference for the Audit Committee of ECOWAS Institutions;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Audit Committee Meeting held in Abidjan (Republic of Cote d'Ivoire) from 9 to 13 December 2013;

HEREBY ENACTS

Article 1:

By this Regulation, the attached revised terms of reference for the Audit Committee of ECOWAS Institutions is hereby approved.

Article 2 :

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.28/12/13 ON INDICATORS GUIDE FOR THE IMPLEMENTION OF ECOWAS AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (ECOAGRIS)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

MINDFUL Decision A/DEC. 11/ 01/05 on the ECOWAS Agricultural policy (ECOWAP) which focuses on boosting agricultural productivity in food and export crops and, eliminating poverty and hunger, especially improving the livelihood of the rural populations;

CONVINCED of the importance of statistical information in the development and integration of the West African region;

NOTING the inadequate functioning of national statistical systems of Member States in the production of quality, reliable and up-to-date data relating to Member States;

CONSCIOUS that statistics constitutes a public good for which sustainable funding of production is firstly the duty of Member States;

DETERMINED to strengthen the regional mechanism for the production, harmonization and dissemination of statistical information necessary for the monitoring of economic and social development in the ECOWAS region;

BEARING IN MIND the critical role of regional action plan for implementation of the ECOWAS agricultural policy and CAADP/NEPAD in West Africa between 2006 and 2010. Also the memorandum on the increase in food price: the situation, outlook, strategies and recommended measures;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the ECOWAS Committee on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, Heads of National Statistics Offices, at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the First Session of the ECOWAS Ministerial Committee on Statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION

The indicators guide for implementation of ECOWAS Agriculture Information System (ECOAGRIS) is hereby adopted and attached to this Regulation as an integral part.

Article 2: EXECUTION

The Member States, in close collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and sub-regional organisations, shall take appropriate measures to implement the programme.

Article 3: DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

The ECOWAS Commission in collaboration with Member States shall regularly use the harmonized tools and instruments (methodological) framework for information gathering and data collection and dissemination of Agricultural Statistics and indicators in the region.

Article 4: METHODOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The ECOWAS Commission shall ensure capacity building and sustenance in the region for data collection on agricultural production, as well as monitoring and evaluation of Agricultural programmes and interventions. Targeted

workshops on thematic basis shall be organized, in collaboration with Member States, regional and international organizations, to train country experts on the use of the methodologies to improve the data collection.

Article 5: OBJECTIVES

The objective of the ECOAGRIS indicators guide is to provide the minimum statistical information necessary for decision-taking on ECOWAP issues. The quest for this minimum information will take into account the requirements on quality, comparability, timeliness, integrity and availability of data for users.

Article 6: COORDINATION AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

The ECOWAS Commission shall ensure that the implementation of ECOAGRIS is to guide the monitoring and redesign of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP)/NEPAD within the framework of the implementation of the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP).

Article 7: ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period upon notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

Seventy-First Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.29/12/13 ON ECOWAS REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTS NOMENCLATURE IN MEMBER STATES

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of articles 3, 4, 5, 51 and 55 of the said Treaty relating to the establishment of the Community Economic and Monetary Union;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.2/7/87 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Monetary Cooperation Programme;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.7/12/99 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of macroeconomic convergence criteria within the framework of the ECOWAS Monetary Cooperation Programme;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.17/12/01 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the establishment of a Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism of ECOWAS Member States' economic and financial policies;

MINDFUL of the Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

CONSCIOUS of the need for comparable economic data to guarantee the credibility of the ECOWAS Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism;

MINDFUL of the report of the 49th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Dakar from 26 to 28 January 2003, particularly in its paragraph 130

relating to the adoption of a plan of action on the harmonisation of national accounts in ECOWAS Member States;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the ECOWAS Commission on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, Heads of National Statistics Offices(NSO), at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the First Session of the ECOWAS Ministerial Committee on Statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013:

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTS NOMENCLATURE

The ECOWAS Regional Economic Activities and Products Nomenclature is hereby adopted and attached as an integral part of this Regulation.

Article 2: OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Nomenclature is to improve the comparability of national accounts data of Member States as needed for the implementation of the multilateral surveillance mechanism and of national economic policies of Member States.

Article 3: IMPLEMENTATION

1 The Member States shall take appropriate measures to implement this nomenclature, in close collaboration with ECOWAS Commission and the other sub-regional organisations.

2 The ECOWAS Commission shall ensure its effective implementation by Member States and shall provide them with technical assistance.

Article 4: CONTENT OF THE NOMENCLATURE

1. The ECOWAS Regional Economic Activities and Products Nomenclature have two components, namely the Structure and the explanatory notes.

2. The ECOWAS Regional Economic Activities Nomenclature structure is consistent with the one for United Nations (ISIC rev4) and is based on a set of international concepts, definitions, principles and classification rules. It represents an integrated framework which is adapted to the needs of economic analysis and general policy guidance of the region.

3. The products nomenclature is based on the intrinsic characteristics of goods and services, providing a classification structure different from that used by the ISIC but consistent with the Central Product Classification (CPC, rev 2).

4. In this regard, links have been established between ECOWAS Regional Nomenclature of Activities and Products and other classifications, especially AFRISTAT and ISIC nomenclatures.

Article 5: MONITORING

The ECOWAS Commission should ensure effective implementation of the Regional Nomenclatures by Member States, particularly through regular training meetings of national officials in charge of national accounts, and technical assistance to Member States.

Article 6: ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period upon notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.30/12/13 ON REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS PROGRAMME

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG.24/12/06 adopting the framework for strengthening capacity in the development and institutionalization of Environmental Statistics in the ECOWAS region

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

CONVINCED of the importance of statistical information in the development and integration of the West African region;

NOTING the inadequate functioning of national statistical systems of Member States in the production of quality, reliable and up-to-date data relating to Member States;

CONSCIOUS that statistics constitutes a public good for which sustainable funding of production is firstly the duty of Member States;

DETERMINED to strengthen the regional mechanism for the production, harmonization and dissemination of statistical information necessary for

the monitoring of economic and social development in the ECOWAS region;

BEARING IN MIND the critical role of environment statistics in sustainable development policies and programmes, as well as problems posed by data collection, processing and dissemination, and the necessity for coordination and networking in that regard;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, Heads of National Statistics Offices, at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the First Session of the ECOWAS Ministerial Committee on Statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION

The ECOWAS core set of environmental statistics indicators is hereby adopted and attached to this Regulation as an integral part.

Article 2: EXECUTION

The ECOWAS Commission, in close collaboration with Member States and sub-regional organisations, shall take appropriate measures to implement the programme.

Article 3: DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

The compilation of a compendium on environment statistics for the ECOWAS region, based on the agreed core list of environmental indicators, shall be considered as a priority of the regional programme on environment statistics;

Article 4: Methodological development and Capacity building

The Commission shall organize expert group meetings to review the methodologies and training materials when necessary. Also, targeted workshops on thematic basis shall be organized to train country experts on the use of the methodologies to improve the data collection. This shall be carried out in collaboration with regional and international organizations.

Article 5: OBJECTIVES

The objective of the ECOWAS agreed core set of environmental indicators is to provide minimum statistical information necessary for decision-taking on environmental issues. The quest for this minimum information shall take into account the requirements on quality, comparability, timeliness, integrity and availability of data for users.

Article 6: COORDINATION AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

The ECOWAS Commission shall ensure that the implementation of regional programme on environment statistics, are harmonized with the recommendations of the Addis Ababa workshop (recommendations of the UNSD/UNEP/ECA Addis Ababa 2007 on a regional programme on the development of environment statistics, including a core set of environmental indicators and statistics for national and regional reporting) on environment statistics.

Article 7: ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period.

DONE IN ABIDJAN THIS 17 DECEMBER 2013

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16-17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.31/12/13 ON THE ADOPTION OF A METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR HARMONIZATION OF CONSUMER PRICE INDICES (CPI) IN MEMBER STATES

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Articles 3, 4, 5, 51 and 55 of the said ECOWAS Treaty relating to the establishment of the Community Economic and Monetary Union;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.2/7/87 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Monetary Cooperation Programme, for the establishment of a Single Monetary Zone within ECOWAS;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.7/12/99 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of macroeconomic convergence criteria within the framework of the ECOWAS Monetary Cooperation Programme;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.17/12/01 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the establishment of a Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism of ECOWAS Member States' economic and financial policies;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government relating to the adoption of an ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.9/01/06 Relating to the Adoption of the

Harmonization Programme for Consumer Price Indices (CPI) of Member States;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.13/01/06 Relating to the ECOWAS Improved Framework of Consumer Price Indices (CPI) in Member States;

CONCIOUS of the need for comparable economic data to guarantee the credibility of the ECOWAS Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism;

CONSIDERING the report of the 49th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Dakar from 26 to 28 January 2003, particularly in its paragraph 130 relating to the adoption of a plan of action on the harmonisation of consumer price indices in ECOWAS Member States;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the Specialized Committee on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, Heads of National Statistics Offices, at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the First Session of the ECOWAS Ministerial Committee on Statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1: ADOPTION OF THE METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE

The Methodological Guide for the ECOWAS Harmonized Consumer Price Index (CPI) is hereby adopted and attached as an integral part of this Regulation.

Article 2: OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Methodological Guide is mainly to improve the reliability and the comparability of consumer price index data of Member States as needed for the implementation of the ECOWAS Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism and of national economic policies of Member States.

Article 3: IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

1. The Member States, in close collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and the other sub-regional organisations, shall take necessary measures for the implementation of the Methodological Guide.

2. The ECOWAS Commission shall ensure effective implementation of the Guide by Member States through the guaranty of technical assistance in particular.

Article 4: ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period upon notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATIONC/REG.32/12/13ON THE PROGRAM OFHARMONIZATION OF BALANCE OFPAYMENTS STATISTICS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions ;

MINDFUL of Articles 3, 4, 5, 51 and 55 of the said ECOWAS Treatyon the achievement of the Community target for the Economic and Monetary Union;

MINDFUL of DecisionA/DEC.2/7/87 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government on the adoption of the programon the ECOWAS Monetary Cooperation;

MINDFULof DecisionA/DEC.7/12/99 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government on the adoption of macroeconomic convergence criteria in the Monetary Cooperation Programme of ECOWAS;

MINDFUL ofDecisionA/DEC.17/12/01 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government, establishing a Multilateral Surveillance Mechanism on the economic and financial policies of the Member States of ECOWAS;

MINDFUL of DecisionA/DEC.11/7/96 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government on the adoption of the ECOWAS Statistics Policy;

CONSCIOUS of the need for economic and comparable data for the credibility of the multilateral surveillance mechanism of ECOWAS;

CONSIDERING the report of the study sponsored by the ECOWAS Commission in collaboration with WAMA in September 2011 on the diagnosis framework for developing statistics on Balance of Payments (BOP) and International Investment Position (IIP) in the ECOWAS region.

CONSIDERING the recommendations of the meeting of experts in charge of the compilation of BOP & IIP statistics , followed by that of the regional institutions in March 2012 , recommending the application of a common code of practice and work towards the implementation of the BOP & IIP Manual 6th Edition of the International Monetary Fund in the ECOWAS region no later than 2015; proposing the establishment of a Regional Committee on BOP and upscale capacity building on existing regional structures;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the meeting of the Technical Committeeon Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, the Directors of the National Institutes of Statistics of ECOWAS held in Niamey from 16 to 19 October 2012;

CONSIDERING the conclusions of the ECOWAS Committee on Trade, Customs, Taxation, Statistics, Money and Payments, Heads of National Statistics Offices, at their meeting held in Abidjan - Cote d'Ivoire from 09 to 12 September 2013;

ON THERECOMMENDATION of the First Meeting of theECOWAS Ministers in charge of Statistics held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on 13 September 2013:

ENACTS

ARTICLE1 ADOPTION

The Programme of Harmonization ofStatistics on Balanceof Payments(BOP)and International Investment Position(IIP)inthe ECOWAS region is hereby adopted.An action planto harmonizeBOP & IIP statisticswhich forms a part of this Regulation is attached as an Annexure.

ARTICLE 2:OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

1.Theoverall objective is toensure comparabilityof data at nationaland regional levelsforthe monitoringof macroeconomicconvergence.

2.The specific objectivesare:the compilation,production anddissemination of comparable, reliable and timelydata onBalance of Payment (BOP) statisticsin ECOWAS, through the applicationof bestpractices asevidencedin the studydiagnosis,in linewith other statisticaldata under the National Accountsandpublic finance.

ARTICLE 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME

TheMember States shall take appropriate measures in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commissionand regional organizations to ensure theimplementation of the Programof Harmonization ofBOP statistics, as well as the effectivecoordination of allactivities to be undertakenin this context.

ARTICLE 4: ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period upon notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2013

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.33/12/13 ADOPTING THE 2011 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE ECOWAS COMMISSION

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 75 of the said Treaty appointing the External Auditors of the ECOWAS Institutions;

MINDFUL of the Financial Regulations and Manual of Accounting Procedures of the Institutions of ECOWAS, as amended by Regulation C/REG.2/12/95;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.1/02/12 appointing the firm «KPMG/Ghana » as the External Auditors of the Community Institutions;

MINDFUL of the contract between ECOWAS and the firm, « KPMG/Ghana » signed on 21st August 2012 relating to the conditions under which the services of the External Auditors of the Community Institutions shall be provided;

AFTER CONSIDERING the report of the firm, « KPMG/Ghana » on the 2011 financial statements of the ECOWAS Commission;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the twenty ninth meeting of the Audit Committee, held in Abidjan from 9 to 13 December 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1:

The audited financial statement of the ECOWAS Commission for 2011 is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2:

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.34/12/13 ADOPTING THE 2011 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE ECOWAS PARLIAMENT

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended in June 2006, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 75 of the said Treaty appointing the External Auditors of ECOWAS Institutions;

MINDFUL of the Financial Regulations and Manual of Accounting Procedures of the institutions of ECOWAS, as amended by Regulation C/REG.2/12/95 ;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.19/01/06 appointing the firm «KPMG/Ghana » as the External Auditors of the Community Institutions;

MINDFUL of the contract between ECOWAS and the firm, « KPMG/Ghana », signed on 21st August 2012 relating to the conditions under which the services of the External Auditors of the Community Institutions shall be provided;

AFTER CONSIDERING the report of the firm, « KPMG/Ghana », on the 2011and 2011 financial statements of the ECOWAS Parliament;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the twenty ninth Meeting of the Audit Committee, held in Abuja from 9 to 13 December 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The audited financial statement of the ECOWAS Parliament for 2011 is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.35/12/13 ADOPTING THE 2011 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 75 of the said Treaty appointing the External Auditors of ECOWAS Institutions;

MINDFUL of the Financial Regulations and Manual of Accounting Procedures of the Institutions of ECOWAS, as amended by Regulation C/REG.2/12/95;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.19/01/06 appointing the firm «KPMG/Ghana » as the External Auditors of the Community Institutions;

MINDFUL of the contract between ECOWAS and the firm, « KPMG/Ghana », signed on 21st August 2012 relating to the conditions under which the services of the External Auditors of the Community Institutions shall be provided;

AFTER CONSIDERING the report of the firm, « KPMG/Ghana », on the 2011 and 2012 financial statements of the ECOWAS Parliament;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Twenty ninth Meeting of the Audit Committee, held in Abidjan on 9 to 13 December 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1:

The audited financial statement of the Community Court of Justice for 2011 is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2:

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2013

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

REGULATION C/REG.36/12/13 ADOPTING THE 2011 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE WEST AFRICAN HEALTH ORGANISATION (WAHO)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended, establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 75 of the said Treaty appointing the External Auditors of the Institutions of ECOWAS;

MINDFUL of the Financial Regulations and Manual of Accounting Procedures of the Institutions of ECOWAS, as amended by Regulation C/REG.2/12/95;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.1/02/12 appointing the firm «KPMG/Ghana » as the External Auditors of the Institutions of the Community;

MINDFUL of the contract between ECOWAS and the firm, « KPMG/Ghana », signed on 21st August 2012 relating to the conditions under which the services of the External Auditors of the Community Institutions shall be provided;

AFTER CONSIDERING the report of the firm, « KPMG/Ghana on the 2011 and 2011 financial statements of the West African Health Organisation;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Twenty ninth Meeting of the Audit Committee, held in Abidjan from 9 to 13 December 2013;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1:

The audited financial statement of the West African Health Organisation for 2011 is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2:

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

DIRECTIVE C/DIR.1/12/13 ADOPTING THE ECOWAS TAX TRANSITION PROGRAMME

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of article 3 of the said Treaty stating the areas in which the Community should focus its activities in order to achieve its aims and objectives;

MINDFUL of article 5 of the Treaty recalling Member States' commitment to abide by decisions and regulations of the Community;

MINDFUL of articles 35, 37 and 40 of the ECOWAS Treaty relating to trade liberalisation, Common External Tariff, import duties and taxes and domestic taxes;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P1/1/03 relating to the definition of the concept of products originating from Member States of the Economic Community of West African States;

MINDFUL of Protocol A/P2/1/03 relating to the application of compensation procedures for loss of revenue incurred by ECOWAS Member States as a result of the trade liberalization scheme ;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Protocol A/SP1/12/03 amending article 6 of Protocol A/P2/1/03 relating to the application of compensation procedures for loss of revenue incurred by ECOWAS Member States as a result of the trade liberalisation scheme;

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG.3/4/02 establishing procedure for the approval of originating products to benefit under the ECOWAS trade liberalization scheme;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.17/01/06 of 12 January 2006 on the adoption of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.1/06/09 amending Decision A/DEC.17/01/06 of 12 January 2006 on the adoption of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff;

MINDFUL of Directive C/DIR.1/05/09 on the harmonisation of Value Added Tax Laws of ECOWAS Member States;

MINDFUL of Directive C/DIR.2/06/09 on the harmonisation of Member States' laws on excise duties;

CONSIDERING that the implementation of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff, coupled with the conclusion of international trade agreements and the trade liberalisation policies will lead to a significant decline in import duties that can be absorbed only through community compensation measures;

CONSIDERING that the harmonisation of tax laws of Member States is a prerequisite for the realization of the Common Market and that it will also contribute to achieving coherence in domestic taxation systems, ensuring equal treatment for economic operators within the community and improving the yield of the various taxes;

CONSIDERING that commitments made by Member States in the framework of poverty reduction strategies in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals require increased mobilisation of financial resources;

AWARE of the need to strengthen the ECOWAS common market and support the economic growth of Member States of the

Community while mobilizing the necessary resources to finance development;

MINDFUL of the need to strengthen measures of the fiscal transition programme undertaken by Member States in the framework of programmes with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the West African Economic and Monetary Union ;

CONVINCED that it is in the interest of the Community to develop a coherent tax and customs reforms programme for the transition from customs duties to domestic taxation in order to compensate possible customs revenue losses due to the liberalisation of the community market and the conclusion of international trade agreements.

CONVINCED that domestic taxation should contribute to the mobilisation of resources while enhancing the competitiveness of companies;

DESIROUS of providing the community with a fiscal transition programme common to all Member States;

UPON THE RECOMMENDATION of the fifty-third (53rd) meeting of the Technical Committee on Trade, Customs and Free Movement of Persons held in Lomé on 18 September 2013.

ENACTS

Article 1

A programme known as "ECOWAS Tax Transition Programme" is hereby adopted and annexed to this Directive of which it forms an integral part.

Article 2

The ECOWAS Commission will specify in regulations the procedures, the mechanism and the role of stakeholders for an efficient implementation of the ECOWAS tax transition programme.

ANNEX TO THE DIRECTIVE ADOPTING THE ECOWAS TAX TRANSITION PROGRAMME

BACKGROUND

The Revised Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States signed on 24 July 1993 in Cotonou restated the Community's objectives, including the harmonization and coordination of national policies and the promotion of programmes, projects and activities in the areas of trade, taxation, creation of a common market and the creation of an Economic Union.

In accordance with article 3 of the ECOWAS Revised Treaty, the successful integration of the West African region depends on the creation of a common market through trade liberalisation and the adoption of a Common External Tariff. In a bid to build a common market, the ECOWAS Commission has achieved significant progresses marked by the adoption of the Common External Tariff for ECOWAS Member States (ECOWAS CET) during the twenty-ninth (29th) session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government held on 12 January 2006 in Niamey, Niger.

Following a long period of consultations with the various Member States through the Joint ECOWAS/UEMOA Committee for the Management of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (JCMCET) and studies conducted on the issue, adjustments were made and these enabled the Council of Ministers meeting held on 20 to 21 June 2013 to adopt seven (7) regulatory texts to allow the implementation of the ECOWAS CET and to recommend to the Authority of Heads of State and Government the adoption of a community integration levy.

The finalisation of the ECOWAS CET from now on gives formal expression to the emerging customs union of ECOWAS Member States which is also necessary to conclude the on-going negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between West Africa (ECOWAS + Mauritania) and the European Union.

As a prelude to the establishment of this ECOWAS Customs Union, measures for the harmonisation of taxation of Member States were taken by the organs of the Commission in the field of the Value Added Tax and excise duties in order to create a harmonised fiscal environment conducive to the development of intra-community trade.

The answer to the crucial issue of the funding of the development i of ECOWAS Member States and the social demand, coupled with the social commitments made by the latters in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers within a global context marked by the economic recession and the conclusion of international trade agreements, requires an increased mobilisation of resources that domestic taxation shall ensure.

The shift of the tax pressure from import duties to domestic taxes for a sustained mobilization of domestic resources to finance the development of Member States and the social policies becomes an imperative.

This shift will help consolidate the work in progress ECOWAS common market, sustain the economic growth of States of the region and promote the funding of the development of States with their own resources.

Furthermore, it will help deepen measures for the harmonization of indirect taxes already in force and pave the way for new measures for the harmonization of direct taxes in States of the region. In this regard, a supervision of the tax policy of States of the region is required to maximize the positive effects of the integration and to minimize the negative effects of tax competition in the emerging customs union within the Community.

This programme referred to as « **ECOWAS TAX TRANSITION PROGRAMME** » was developed based on the study on tax and customs reforms with the aim of concluding the EPA in the States of the region and Mauritania. The latest conclusions of this study commissioned by ECOWAS were presented and validated during the regional workshop held on 16 and 17 September 2013 in Lomé, Togo.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme of tax transition has four (4) main objectives, namely:

- Consolidate the common market under construction within the ECOWAS space;

- Sustain the economic growth of States through the financing of development and social policies from internal fiscal resources ;
- Strengthen the capacities and the synergy between the tax and customs administrations for an the mobilisation of adequate tax and customs resources;
- Modernise the customs and tax administrations.

I- INTERVENTION AREAS OF THE PROGRAMME

1- Consolidating the ECOWAS common market, the monitoring of the fiscal coordination of domestic taxes and the elimination of double taxation

The common market under construction in the region needs to be sustained by the current fiscal transition programme which, when implemented, shall ensure that this common market functions smoothly and in a balanced manner for the benefit of economies of States of the region.

The implementation of the current programme should help establish in the various States a taxation suitable for the common market and capable of ensuring the competitiveness of States, the economic growth and the mobilisation of the necessary resources to the financing of the development.

As part of the consolidation of the ECOWAS common market, the States must, through this programme, apply measures linked to the strengthening of the regional trade and the management of the common external tariff as well as measures aimed at harmonizing the domestic direct and indirect taxes of States of the region.

The fiscal coordination of domestic taxes applicable in the States of the region stands out as a priority action to complement the ECOWAS Customs Union.

1-1 Strengthening of the regional trade in West Africa and the management of the Common External Tariff

With the implementation of the current tax transition programme, it is imperative that the Community puts in place measures that will help increase significantly the volume of the intra-community trade by giving a new impetus to the ECOWAS intra-community trade liberalisation scheme.

The following measures must be applied under this programme to promote the development of the intra-community trade:

1-1-1 Establishment by the organs of ECOWAS of a mechanism for the monitoring and the evaluation of the intra-community trade and the effective application of community provisions concerning intra-community trade liberalisation by the States ;

1-1-2 Simplification of procedures and formalities for obtaining approval decisions in Member States;

1-1-3 Removal of non-tariff barriers through the introduction of an appropriate regional regulation;

1-1-4 Gradual removal by the States of the region of exonerations, exemptions and other tax incentives, sources of distortions and tax competition in the common market ;

1-1-5 Effective application by the States and the monitoring of additional support measures to the Customs Union taken by ECOWAS ;

1-1-6 Sensitization of economic operators within the States of the region on the use of the computerised system for the management of business opportunities (SIGOA) set up by the ECOWAS Commission ;

1-1-7 Improvement of the competitiveness and productivity of production sectors by the States ;

1-1-8 Reduction of the volume of trade of goods that are not captured in official statistics due to their informal nature or smuggling through the introduction at the level of States of a national mechanism for the monitoring of the informal trade ;

1-1-9 Reduction of competing productions between the States.

1-2 ECOWAS Common External Tariff

The ECOWAS CET is a key instrument required for the effective implementation of the Custom Union in the region. In the framework of the implementation of the current Tax Transition Programme, appropriate measures must be taken at the regional level and in Member States of the Community to strengthen the effective application of the instrument. In addition, the Community must find integrated and coherent solutions in terms of adjustments to regional sectorial policies to address specific concerns raised by certain States for a satisfactory application of the ECOWAS CET.

The fiscal transition assists certain specific needs expressed by the States , in particular the loss of customs revenues as a result of the implementation of the ECOWAS CET.

Consequently, the following measures have to be adopted in the framework of the programme:

1-2-1 Additional accompanying measures required for the efficient implementation of the CET in States of the region;

The following accompanying measures have to be taken by the organs of the Commission:

- –Use of uniform customs documents by the States of the region;
- –Elaboration of a community customs code;
- –Support for Member States for the implementation of the regulation on the customs valuation;
- –Application of harmonised rules of procedures in the Community;

1-2-2 Establishment of community customs regimes.Removal of all tariff measures in force in Member States of the Community that are not compliant with the CET;

1-2-3 Support for the implementation of national and regional units for the management of trade defence measures

1-2-4 Regular evaluation by ECOWAS organs of the impact of the Customs Union of the region on the economies of the Member States of the Community;

1-2-5 Setting up at the level of Member States of a mechanism for the monitoring of the proper application of the CET by Member States.

1-2-6 Identification of compensatory tax measures to be implemented by each Member State. These measures have to take into account the economic and budgetary potential proper to each Member State and must not be an impediment to the competitiveness of enterprises, the investments' promotion and the economic growth of Member States.

1-2-7 ECOWAS support to the inter-connections of customs administrations and the modernisation of the latters.

1-3 Strengthening of measures for the harmonisation of domestic indirect taxation and new measures for the harmonisation of direct taxation in States of the region

Within the framework of the implementation of the current programme, it is necessary to pursue and strengthen the harmonization of tax legislations while improving the coherence of internal taxation systems and the yield of the various taxes. This tax coordination approach

aims to eliminate tax competition between the States of the region and reduce intra-community distortions. The Value Added Tax and excise duties harmonisation measures previously adopted by ECOWAS must be strengthened and new direct taxation harmonisation projects must be initiated.

1-3-1 Strengthening of domestic indirect taxations of States of the region

1-3-1-1 Evaluation of the implementation of ECOWAS Directives on Value Added Tax and on excise duties ;

1-3-1-2 Harmonisation of VAT exemptions and excise duties applicable I by the States of the region ;

1-3-1-3 Adoption of regulatory acts on harmonized regime of exemptions of VAT applicable to all States in the region, by the ECOWAS Commission ;

1-3-1-4 Adoption of regulatory acts on excise duties, by the ECOWAS Commission;

1-3-1-5 Adoption of harmonization measures on tax exemptions, by the ECOWAS Commission;;

1-3-1-6 Definition of tax performance criteria and indicators specific to the region, by ECOWAS;;

1-3-1-7 Adoption of measures for the coordination on taxation applicable to petroleum products in the Member States, by the ECOWAS Commission.

1-3-2 Measures for the harmonization of direct taxation in States of the region

1-3-2-1 Take measures by ECOWAS for assuring the coordination of direct taxation of States based on an assessment of direct taxes that are likely to be affected by this coordination as well as rules of determination of direct taxes that will be unified. The emphasis must be on the harmonisation of rules and modalities for imposing taxes on profits applicable in the region and corporate income tax rates.

1-3-2-2 Take measures by ECOWAS for the coordinatation of taxation on movable capital n the region ;

1-3-2-3 Take measures by ECOWAS for the harmonisation of taxation applicable to revenues of personal income taxes;

1-3-3 The unification of the rules aiming at eliminating double taxation in the Community

The adoption by the ECOWAS Commission of rules aiming at eliminating double taxation in the region and establishing the rules for assistance in tax issues will contribute to consolidate the free movement of goods and persons within the Community and fight against tax fraud and evasion.

The following measures have to be taken by the organs of the Commission within the framework of the implementation of the current ECOWAS tax transition programme:

1-3-3-1 The evaluation by ECOWAS of the impact of the establishment of community rules aiming at eliminating double taxation and establishing rules for mutual assistance to fight against tax fraud and evasion.

1-3-3-2 The adoption by the ECOWAS Commission of regulations enacting the rules aiming at eliminating double taxation and the rules for tax assistance and cooperation in the region.

2- Support to the economic growth of States and the funding of development and social policies

The implementation of measures of the current Tax Transition Programme shall enable to support the economic growth of States and generate needed resources to finance social policies.

It is established that the engine of the economic growth is the investment and that the implementation of national or community tax policies notably influence the decisions of individuals relating to savings, work and improvement of the level of education; the decisions of enterprises regarding production, job creation, investment and innovation as well as the choice of savings instruments and assets by the investors. These decisions are affected not only by the level of taxes but also by the way the various fiscal instruments are designed and combined to generate public revenues.

Consequently, the community tax measures to support the economic growth in the framework of the Tax Transition Programme must be focused on:

2-1 Taking investment incentive measures by the States for the benefit of companies while ensuring adequate mobilisation of resources;

2-2 Taking incentive tax measures by the States for a better domestic savings mobilisation in States of the region ;

2-3 Establishing in the States of an incentive common law mechanism

2-4 Establishing within the States of the region of a flexible taxation system, adapted to the structure of economies of States of the region and targeted towards activities' sectors operating in the informal ;

2-5 Setting up in the States of a taxation system applicable to growing sectors of activity in the region;

2-6 Establishing in the States of tax control techniques suitable for companies in sectors of activities resources providers in order to maximise tax yields.

3- Mobilisation of domestic resources on the basis of general tax and customs reforms

The mobilisation of tax and customs resources hinges on the efficient implementation of reform axes validated during the regional workshop on customs and tax reforms held on 16 and 17 September 2013 in Lomé, Togo.

The tax and customs reforms planned in the framework of the fiscal transition are on the modernization of customs and tax administrations, the development of tax systems of States of the region and the improvement of tax administration modes.

The optimum mobilisation of domestic tax resources is subject to the effective implementation of tax and customs reform axes in the States of the region.

The strategic axes retained in the framework of the tax transition programme are outlined as follows:

3-1-AXIS 1: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR TAX AND CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS, GENERAL FACILITIES, LOGISTICS, HUMAN RESOURCE, INFORMATION SYSTEMS, TAX AND CUSTOMS PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS

The implementation of reforms grouped under this axis requires the following actions:

3-1-1 Digital archiving of files in tax and customs administrations and at the Treasury in order to secure data related to taxpayers and users ; This n dematerialization of files will facilitate information search and sharing between the various financial authorities;

3-1-2 Effective interconnection of financial authorities to facilitate information sharing and cross-checking;

3-1-3 Optimisation of the computerisation ofunits, automation of procedures and management of tax and customs administrations;

3-1-4 Reorganisation of tax and customs administrations;

3-1-5 Construction, rehabilitation, development, provisions of equipment and materials of tax and customs units;

3-1-6 Capacity building of human resources of customs and tax administrations;

3-1-7 Establishment of a specific status of the staff of customs and tax administrations. .....???

3-2-AXIS 2 : CONTROL AND EXPANSION OF THE TAX BASE

In the framework of the control and the extension of the tax base, the following actions shall be carried out by the States of the region:

3-2-1 Identification, census and management of taxpayers

- Generalisation of the unique Tax Identification Number;
- Improvement of methods and procedures of the census of taxpayers ;
- Segmentation into four distinct categories: micro, small, medium and large enterprises;

3-2-2 Expansion of the tax base and streamlining of exemptions

- Expansion and balance of the tax base;
- Reduction of tax exemptions ;

3-2-3 Control of bases declared and values

- Improvement of tax control;
- Strengthening of mechanisms for control of declared customs values;

3-2-4 Review of tax and customs texts

- Reduction of nominal rates
- Establishment of a taxation system suitable to the micro enterprise.

3-3-AXIS 3: STREAMLINING OF STRATEGIES FOR COMBATING CUSTOMS AND TAX FRAUD AND CORRUPTION WITHIN CUSTOMS AND TAX ADMINISTRATIONS

3-3-1- Strengthening of the mechanism for combating tax and customs fraud;

- Reinforcement of missions and facilities of joint Customs/Tax brigades;
- Creation of structures for surveys and and researches of queries common to tax and customs administrations ;
- Establishment in the Member States of mechanisms of tax control based on risk analysis.

3-3-2- Strengthening of the mechanism for combating corruption within customs and tax administrations.

- Adoption of codes of ethics and conduct within tax and customs administrations ;
- Broader strengthening of tax governance systems.

3-4- AXIS 4 : IMPROVEMENT IN CUSTOMS AND TAX REVENUE COLLECTION

3-4-1- Reorganisation of tax and customs revenue collection units:

- Modernisation of forms of organisation and working methods of tax and customs administrations in order to make the collection of taxes and duties more efficient.

3-4-2- Improvement in procedures and means of collecting tax and customs revenues;

- Improvement in tax collection system and procedures.

3-5- AXIS 5: PROMOTION OF FISCAL CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AND INVESTMENTS

3-5-1- Promotion of investments

- Strengthening of the partnership with the private sector
- Establishment of targeted tax incentive measures in order to promote investments while ensuring tax yields.

3-5-2- Promotion of fiscal civic-mindedness

- Strengthening of taxpayer sensitisation actions
- Implementation of Arusha Declaration on good governance

Article 3

This Directive shall enter into force after its signature by the President of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN
OF COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

SEVENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Abidjan, 16 – 17 December 2013

RECOMMENDATION C/REC.1/12/13RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICES IN MEMBER STATES

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the aims and objectives of ECOWAS as defined under Article 3 of the ECOWAS Treaty which principally includes the establishment of an Economic Union through Inter-State cooperation and integration;

MINDFULof Article 5 of the said Treaty that obliges Member States to create favourable conditions for the attainment of the objectives of the Community;

MINDFULof the call by this Treaty in particular, Articles 3 (2) (c), 16 and 82 for the harmonisation and coordination of national policies, a mobilisation of various sectors of the populations and various actors in the socio-economic life of Member States for effective integration and involvement in the development of this region;

RECALLINGthe series of Regulations adopted by Council over the years aimed at creating and strengthening National Units in Member States for the sole purpose of coordinating and promoting the implementation of the ECOWAS agenda within Member States;

ACKNOWLEDGINGthe fact that ECOWAS must establish a strong physical presence in all Member States in order to promote and secure active involvement of States in implementing the aims and objectives of the Organisation;

RECALLINGthat the Council of Ministers at its fifty-third Session which was held in Accra on 16 to 18 January 2005 approved the establishment of ECOWAS Permanent Representational Offices in five (5) Member States, which Offices are to operate as diplomatic missions supervised by officials that would themselves operate as Heads of diplomatic missions with the Status of Directors;

ALSO RECALLINGthat Council at its fifty Seventh Ordinary Session directed that the establishment of these Permanent Representational Offices be deferred and efforts made to consolidate and strengthen the ECOWAS National Units in Member States;

HAVING ACKNOWLEDGEDthe increase in the activities of the Community in a bid to respond to the ECOWAS vision 2020 and the ever increasing global challenges to regional integration.

NOTING that the time has come for a re-consideration of the principle of direct physical presence of ECOWAS in Member States as a means of ensuring the full engagement of States and the citizenry in the cause of regional integration.

MINDFULof the financial implications of establishing these offices and the need to embark on their gradual and phased establishment in order to minimise the financial burden on the Community.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

FORTY FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, ... February 2014

DRAFT

SUPPLEMENTARY ACT A/SA...../02/14RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICES IN MEMBER STATES

THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES,

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Governmentand defining its composition and functions;

MINDFULof the aims and objectives of ECOWAS as defined under Article 3 of the ECOWAS Treaty which principally includes the establishment of an Economic Union through Inter-State of cooperation and integration;

MINDFULof Article 5 of the said Treaty that obliges Member States to create favourable conditions for the attainment of the objectives of the Community;

MINDFULof the call by this Treaty in particular, Articles 3 (2) (c), 16 and 82 for the harmonisation and coordination of national policies, a mobilisation of various sectors of the populations and various actors in the socio-economic life of Member States for effective integration and involvement in the development of this region;

RECALLINGthe series of Regulations adopted by Council over the years aimed at creating and strengthening National Units in Member States for the sole purpose of coordinating and promoting the implementation of the ECOWAS agenda within Member States;

ACKNOWLEDGINGthe fact that ECOWAS must establish a strong physical presence in all Member States in order to promote and secure active involvement of States in implementing the aims and objectives of the Organisation;

RECALLINGthat the Council of Ministers at its fifty-third Session which was held in Accra on 16 to 18 January 2005 approved the establishment of ECOWAS Permanent Representational Offices in five (5) Member States, which Offices are to operate as diplomatic missions supervised by officials that would themselves operate as Heads of diplomatic missions with the Status of Directors;

ALSO RECALLINGthat Council at its fifty Seventh Ordinary Session directed that the establishment of these Permanent Representational Offices be deferred and efforts made to consolidate and strengthen the ECOWAS National Units in Member States;

HAVING ACKNOWLEDGEDthe increase in the activities of the Community in a bid to respond to the ECOWAS vision 2020 and the ever increasing global challenges to regional integration.

NOTING that the time has come for a re-consideration of the principle of direct physical presence of ECOWAS in Member States as a means of ensuring the full engagement of States and the citizenry in the cause of regional integration.

MINDFULof the financial implications of establishing these offices and the need to embark on their gradual and phased establishment in order to minimise the financial burden on the Community.

DESIROUS therefore of ensuring that ECOWAS does indeed establish physical presence in all Member State of the Community.

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Seventy first ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers which took place in Abidjan from the 16 to 17 December 2013.

DECIDES

Article 1

1. The establishment of ECOWAS Permanent Representational Offices in all Member States is hereby approved.

2. The establishment of these Offices shall be coordinated and undertaken by the President of the ECOWAS Commission in a progressive manner in accordance with the phased plan attached as an annex to this Supplementary Act.

Article 2

The mandate of the Permanent Representational Offices shall include:

1. Enhancing ECOWAS presence and visibility in Member States;

2. Promoting relations between the Host States and ECOWAS Institutions;

3. Serve as interface between the various National Stakeholders and ECOWAS Institutions and Agencies for the promotion, ownership and the implementation of the Regional agenda;

4. Enhance and facilitate coordination and implementation of Regional programmes ensuring necessary follow up and monitoring;

5. Support Member States' efforts at achieving ECOWAS objectives.

Article 3

1. The Council of Minister shall in consultation with the President of ECOWAS Commission propose a lean and efficient structure forthe Permanent Representational Offices to function as diplomatic missions which shall be headed by Officials with the status of Ambassadors. The financial requirements for the operation of the Offices shall be approved by Council

2. The President of the Commission shall urgently carry out an assessment of the existing ECOWAS structures in Member States with a view to integrating and consolidating these structures under the established Permanent Representational Offices.

ARTICLE 4 ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Regulation, which enters into force from the date of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signature. It shall equally be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within the same period upon notification by the Commission.

ARTICLE 5 PUBLICATION

This Supplementary Act shall be published by the Commission in the official journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of the date of its signing by the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its official Gazette within the same time frame.

ARTICLE 6 DEPOSITORY AUTHORITY

This Supplementary Act shall be deposited with the Commission, which shall transmit certified copies thereof to all the Member States and shall ensure its registration with the African Union, the United Nations Organization and any other organization designated by the Council.

IN FAITH WHEREOF WE, THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES, HAVE SIGNED THIS SUPPLEMENTARY ACT.

DONE AT .....THIS.....DAY OF FEBRUARY 2014

IN SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH, FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE LANGUAGES, ALL THREE (3) TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

ESTABLISHMENT PLAN OF ECOWAS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONS

Member States	Year	Obs.
Burkina Faso	2014	
Liberia	2014	
Togo	2914	
Niger	2015	
Sierra Leone	2015	
The Gambia	2015	
Ghana	2016	
Benin	2016	
Senegal	2016	
Cape Verde	2017	

HAVING taken note of the recommendation of the 14th meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee and the memorandum submitted by the Commission on this matter.

RECOMMENDS to the Authority of Heads of States and Government to adopt the attached draft Supplementary Act relating to theestablishment of Permanent Representational Offices in Member States.

DONE IN ABIDJAN, ON THE 17TH OF DECEMBER, 2013

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

OF COUNCIL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL

Yamoussoukro, 25 March 2014

RECOMMENDATION MSC/REC.1/03/14 ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE ECOWAS MISSION IN GUINEA BISSAU (ECOMIB)

THE MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL

MINDFUL of Article 13, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Protocol relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Peace-keeping and Security of 10th December 1999 establishing the Mediation and Security Council at ministerial level;

PURSUANT to Article 58 of the Revised ECOWAS Treaty on Regional Security;

MINDFUL of the ECOWAS Declaration of Political Principles adopted on 6th July 1991;

MINDFUL of the ECOWAS Protocol relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Peace-keeping and Security signed in Lomé on 10th December 1999;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.1/04/12 of 26th April 2012 authorizing the deployment of the ECOWAS Stand-by Force (ESF) contingent in Guinea Bissau;

MINDFUL of Decisions A/DEC.1/5/12, A/DEC.2/11/12 of 11th November 2012 and A/DEC. 02/11/12 of 11th November 2012 respectively extending the mandate of the ECOWAS Stand-by Force (ESF) in Guinea Bissau renewing the mandate of the ECOWAS Mission in Bissau (ECOMIB) and extending its deployment for another period of six (6) months;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.1/7/13 supporting the extension of the mandate of the transitional institutions in Guinea Bissau for another period of twelve (12) months;

CONSIDERING that in keeping with the provisions of Decision A/DEC.1/7/13 of 18th July 2013, the ECOMIB mandate was effectively renewed on 17th May 2013;

RECALLING that this mandate will expire on 16th May 2014 whereas its renewal is necessary to enable ECOMIB contribute to the overall stabilization of the country, including after the 2014 presidential elections;

DETERMINED to enable ECOMIB continue executing its mandate beyond the transitional period in Guinea Bissau;

DESIROUS of extending the mandate of the ECOWAS Mission in Guinea Bissau (ECOMIB) for another period of twelve (12) months;

AFTER CONSIDERING the Memorandum of the President of the ECOWAS Commission on Guinea Bissau;

Hereby recommends that the Authority of Heads of State and Government adopt the Decision extending the mandate of the ECOWAS Mission in Guinea Bissau (ECOMIB).

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 22ND DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN

FOR THE MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'OUEST

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

THIRTY FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL

Yamoussoukro, 25th March 2014

REGULATION MSC/REG.01/03/14 RELATING TO THE ECOWAS INTEGRATED MARITIME STRATEGY (EIMS)

PREAMBLE

THE MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL;

MINDFUL of Article 58 of the ECOWAS Treaty relating to regional security;

MINDFUL of article 13 of the Protocol relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peace Keeping and Security on the meetings of the Mediation and Security Council at Ministerial level;

MINDFUL of Regulation MSC/REG.1/01/8 on the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention framework;

MINDFUL of the Rules and Procedure of the Mediation and Security Council;

CONSIDERING the United Nations Security Council Declaration of 30th August 2011 and Resolution 2018 of 31st October 2011 on acts of piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea and the development and implementation of regional, sub-regional and national maritime safety and security strategy;

RECALLING the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2039 of 29 February 2012 which urges the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) to work together to develop a regional strategy to fight against piracy, armed robbery, and other illicit activities committed at sea in collaboration with the African Union;

NOTING the Declaration of the Heads of States and Government of Central and West African States on Maritime safety and security in their common Maritime Domain and the Code of Conduct concerning the repression of piracy, armed robbery against ships and illicit Maritime activities in West and Central Africa, signed on 25th June, 2013 in Yaoundé, the Republic of Cameroon,

RECOGNIZING the Memorandum of Understanding among ECCAS, ECOWAS and GGC on Maritime Strategy and Security on the Gulf of Guinea signed on 25th June 2013 in Yaoundé, the Republic of Cameroon;

RECOGNIZING also the Multilateral Agreement on the Establishment of Maritime Zone E (Benin, Niger, Nigeria and Togo) to eradicate illegal Maritime activities in West Africa signed at Abuja on 15th July 2013;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the African Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy) adopted by the AU on 6 December 2012;

TAKING ALSO INTO ACCOUNT relevant international instruments:-

- The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNICLOS);
- The Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS);
- The International Ship and Port Security (ISPS);
- The 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety Navigation (SUA Convention) and its Protocols
- The 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit-Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (the Vienna Convention);

ACKNOWLEDGING the global geo-maritime importance, the growing commercial activities and investment in the ECOWAS region especially in offshore oil infrastructure;

CONCERNED that the Maritime Domain in the ECOWAS region is undermined by multifaceted, domestic, regional and international threats such as piracy attacks, maritime boundary disputes, illegal waste dumping, uncontrolled and unregulated fishing activities;

DETERMINED to address these existing and also potential challenges by formulating policies, strategies and initiatives that will protect and combat illicit activities in the region's Maritime Zones;

DECIDED to adopt a regional approach to tackle illicit maritime activities through the ECOWAS Maritime Strategy (EIMS) including the establishment of Regional Maritime Co-ordination Centre.

UPON CONSIDERATION by the meeting of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff held in Bissau, Guinea Bissau from 7th to 19 February, 2014.

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the ECOWAS Inter-governmental Expert Meeting held in Banjul, The Gambia from 31st October to 1st November 2013;

ENACTS

Article 1

Member States hereby endorse the Integrated Maritime Strategy (EMIS) attached as an annex to this Regulation;

Article 2

Member States are enjoined to put in place necessary administrative and legislative measures that would facilitate the application of the EMIS;

Article 3

The President of the Commission shall ensure the proper implementation of the EMIS;

Article 4

This Regulation shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the ECOWAS Commission within thirty (30) days after its signature by the Chairman of Council of Ministers.

It shall also be published in the National Gazette of each Member State within thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO THIS 25TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

.....

H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

THE CHAIRMAN

FOR THE MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL

COMISSAO DA CEDEAO

ECOWAS
LA CEDEAO

COMMISSIONCOMMISSION DE

31st ORDINARY MEETING OF THE ECOWAS MEDIATION AND SECURITY COUNCIL
Yamoussoukro, 25March 2014

ECOWAS INTEGRATED MARITIME STRATEGY (EIMS)

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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

Background

1. The EconomicCommunity of West African States(ECOWAS) maritime domain (EMD) comprises the adjacent Atlantic Ocean, islands, estuaries, lagoons, archipelagos, deltas, wetlands, creeks, coral reefs, mangrove forests, sandy beaches and dunes, as well as inland waterways such as lakes, rivers, falls, dams and streams, which are the lifeblood of the Community. Collectively 11 of the 15 ECOWAS Member States have a 2,868 nautical mile coastline on the Atlantic Ocean – a vast and diverse region that stretches from the sandy deserts of northern Senegal bordering Mauritania to the north, in the Niger Delta region and bordering Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea to the East. Although Cape Verde is the only island ECOWAS Member State, all of ECOWAS is affected by or dependent upon the maritime domain.

2. The associatedmaritime ecosystem provides a rich biodiversity, fresh waterfrom inland rivers and lakes, as well as the bounty of the Atlantic Ocean. This ecosystem provides critical life-supporting activities fora majority of the West African population, most of whom depend on itdirectly or indirectly for their survival, whether through employment, trade, transport, arts and culture, and aqua-farming or as a primary source of protein.The fishing industry provides employment to millions West Africans and significant export revenue to the region's economy.

3. All ECOWAS Member States are thus linked to the region's maritime resources. These include the three landlocked countries (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger), that are linked by maritime inland waterways, lakes and rivers. Six countries share the Niger River (thelongest in the region), namelyNigeria, Niger, Mali, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Benin. In addition, the landlocked countries need access to the sea for the import and export of goods. For a number of ECOWAS countries,resources from the EMD, which include oil and gas exploration, account for most of their foreign earnings.

4. West African countries,either individually or collectively,are confronted with growing and multifaceted challenges to their maritime domain.The main concerns relate to overexploitation of marine resources, rapid degradation of the marine environment through pollution, coastal erosion, and rise in sea levelcriminal acts at sea.Piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling, drug and human trafficking, IUU fishing and illegal migration also haslinks to transnational criminal groups. The lack of security and safety of maritime navigation in the ECOWAS waters has made sea-transportation more risky, expensive and deadly.

5. These challenges impede the realisation of the full potential of theEMD, undermineefforts aimed at accelerating economic development and integration in the region, and thus aggravate poverty and political instability.

6. In 2008, Member States adopted the ECOWAS Vision 2020, which set out the strategic objectives of the Community for a borderless region, sustainable development, peace and good governance, and integration into the global market, as well as its transformation from an 'ECOWAS of States' to an'ECOWAS of People'. The challenges in the maritime domain seriously undermine efforts aimed at realising the objectives of the ECOWAS Vision 2020 and the goals ofthe July 1993 revised ECOWAS Treaty (Revised Treaty). Indeed,given the maritime domain's critical role in

development and in achieving the fundamental ideals of the Community, the challenges represent a foremost priority for the 15ECOWAS Member States. It is also evident that the region will not fully achieve its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) if urgent measures are not undertaken at the national and regional level to mitigate the fast-developing threats to the maritime domain.

7. Effective measures will depend on the extent to which ECOWAS Member States are willing and able to harness regional resources, work together to enhance the effectiveness of individual States, and work in close cooperation with all stakeholders. This should include key actors at the continental and international level, and must complement individual and collective intervention in the maritime domain.The EIMS and Implementation Planshould stop and reverse these negative trends in the maritime domain and set out common standardsto regulate and streamline related activities.

8. The trans-boundary nature of maritime resources such as rivers, lakes, seas, minerals, oil and other maritime ecosystems makes regional cooperation imperativedue to common experiences with violent conflicts over the control, distribution and management of the associated resources.

Mandate and legal basis for the EIMS

9. The Revised Treaty provides a firm basis for the development of a regional maritime strategy as it addresses, amongst others, IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated) fishing, extractive activities, protection of the natural environment, and co-operation in the event of natural disasters.

10. The development of the EIMS additionally responds to the commitments made by ECOWAS Member States in several regional, continental and international legal instruments. (See Annex A)

Integrated Approach

11. The EIMS emphasises a people-centric response to the management and exploitation of the maritime domain and supports the shift from 'an ECOWAS of States to an ECOWAS of people'. In this context, the EIMS is predicated on inter-agency collaboration at the national level and must bring together political affairs, legal matters, regional security and defence, law enforcement (police, gendarmerie, intelligence, investigation), maritime administration, and port authority, early warning/observation and monitoring and response, agriculture, environment, water resources, customs, industry, fisheries, strategic planning, transport and telecommunication, energy, trade, research and statistics, free movement of people, multilateral surveillance, employment and drug control, humanitarian and social affairs, human resources and development, gender, youth and civil society organisations, industry, oceanography, shipping, and aqua-culture, etc. to coordinate and synergise their activities and responses within the maritime domain.

12. The implementation of this strategy requires the participation and collaboration of various stakeholders, who assume collective responsibility for the EMD with a common focus. This underscores the need for integrated policies that are well articulated to mitigate collateral impacts or consequences.

13. The EIMS is designed to complement continental efforts and to enhance synergies with all stakeholders, including the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC), the Maritime Organisation for West and Central Africa (MOWCA) and other regional mechanisms and neighbouring countries important for achieving the goals of the

EIMS. It therefore represents a tool for cooperation at the national, bilateral and multilateral level, involving all the stakeholders dealing with different sectorial issues in the maritime domain.

Principles

14. The EIMS is based on the following principles:

i. The maritime domain is critical for economic development and affects both coastal and non-coastal Member States;

ii. Maritime challenges are transnational, trans-regional and inter-related and cannot be overcome by any single nation. Thus the need for coordination and cooperation, in close collaboration with neighbouring states, transatlantic, European and global counterparts;

iii. Effective governance of the maritime domain, particularly based on democratic principles with respect to universal human rights, is key to unlocking the potential of the EMD and the success of the strategy;

iv. Countering the challenges to the EMD requires both security and non-security strategies. In this context, criminal justice responses based on a solid foundation of the rule of law is anessential element to mitigating the associated challenges.

Vision statement

15. The vision for the EIMS is a prosperous, safe and peaceful EMD for all its peoples that will allow environmentally sustainable development and wealth creation based on efficient management and good governance.

16. The EIMS will also form an integral part of the implementation architecture of the AU Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIMS) and is closely aligned with similar initiatives in neighbouring regions, such as ECCAS.

Scope of the EIMS

17. The EIMS identifies the major challenges to the maritime domain and offers a set of comprehensive priority actions that should be undertaken at the national and regional level. It addresses five strategic objectives, each of which is discussed in a separate section below:

i. Strategic Objective 1: Strengthen maritimegovernance;

ii. Strategic Objective 2: Maritime security and safety;

iii. Strategic Objective 3: Maritimeenvironmental management;

iv. Strategic Objective 4: Optimise the ECOWAS maritime economy;

v. StrategicObjective 5: Promote maritime awareness andresearch.

18. Each strategic issue introduces the challenges within the maritime domain and propose strategies to address those.

SECTION II

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Approach

19. The Strategic Objectives constitute the **Ends**to be achieved and are thepillars of the EIMS. The Priority Actions describe the **Ways**in which it will be achieved and a framework (Strategic Plan) is captured in Enclosure 1. The **Means** required for successful implementation will be derived from a detailed analysis of the Ways, and will define the capabilities and capacitiesrequired to achieve the Ends. This will be achievedin close collaboration with all the stakeholders.ECOWAS Member States are expected to vigorously pursue and initiate actions and define policies to address the challenges to the maritime domain.While there are similarities between them, they have been recorded separately for clarity.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ONE: STRENGTHEN MARITIME GOVERNANCE

20. Governance includes all legal and policy requirements, the tasks to be performed, the organisation structures and, most important, the associated mechanisms that enable the implementation and execution of the strategy.

21. Governance of the maritime domain is complex and multidimensional and must ensure compliance with international laws, as well as withcontinental and regional commitments.

22. Effective and efficient governance of the maritime domain is essential for the EIMS to be successful. Effective governance will create the stability required in the sector to build confidence in the ECOWAS initiatives and will encourage Member States to implement similar controls/guidelines in their national domains. The diverse nature of the maritime domain requires the alignment of administrative activities that the various stakeholders should perform to achieve their individual and collective objectives. Mechanisms to ensure accountability and transparency at all levels are essential for good governance.

23. Communication, coordination and collaboration among Member States and other stakeholders at the regional, continental and international level are essential, such as that between ECOWAS, ECCAS, GGC and MOWCA.

Action 1.1 - Develop and promote efficient and responsiblemaritime resource management

24. Poor management of the rich ECOWAS maritime resources has resulted in over exploitation and the pending destruction of these resources with substantive deleterious impact on the peoples of the region. Efficient and responsible management practices are urgently needed to contribute to the sustainability of those resources and substantial economic and developmental benefits.

25. Priority Actions Required:

i. Implement comprehensive plans for the protection, further development and responsible management of all resources in the ECOWAS maritime domain;

ii. Develop a plan to ensure a comprehensive and appropriate ethics regime;

iii. Develop and establish appropriate inspector general functions;

iv. Develop an effective mechanism to implement anti-corruption programs to stamp out corruption both private and government sectors particularly security enforcement agencies;

v. Enhance capacity-building of national maritime institutions including regular training for maritime authorities (military and civilians), customs officials, and other technical and operational experts;

vi. Encourage Member States to review their criminal justice regime on anti-corruption laws to include severe penalties

Action 1.2 – Define maritime domain

26. Essential in the governance process is defining the areas where control needs to be exercised.Claims to Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) are a common source of conflict between countries as the claims of one country often overlap with that of others – especially where rich resources lie within disputed areas. Clear delineation of maritime borders and associated claims, and common agreement thereto, is essential for harmonious coexistence and the management thereof.

27. Priority actions required:

i. ECOWAS has to develop a policy for the management of theEMD (i.e., combined ECOWAS Member States EEZs);

ii. Member States must negotiate for amicable solutions to disputes in order to assume the right for responsible exploitation of resources within these zones, including zones where maritime boundaries have not been defined yet;

iii. Member States to implement the relevant provisions of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)(Part V).***Attach extract of UNCLOS***

Action 1.3–Establish and strengthen governance mechanisms

28. The AU's African Maritime Transport Charter encourages the formation of multi-sectoral clusters where business integration and competitiveness are enhanced. These clusters should **not be organised** on the principle of exclusivity (excluding those with a different business focus), but rather **include organisations** from different sectors.

29. Priority actions required:

i. Involve all major actors, including civil society and media organisations, the local population, the academic and research communities and any other relevant actors,before the formulation of legislative guidance within the maritime domain;

ii. Organisenational government departmentsand ECOWAS Commission departments to facilitate implementation and harmonisation of the policies in the different sectors of the maritime domain (establish clusters);

iii. Involve all ECOWAS policy organs and institutionalise regular meetings of such organs or their technical committees, including at the level of Heads of State and Government, to review policy implementation and developments in the maritime domain;

iv. Build on both the current training regional capacities (i.e., the Regional Maritime University in Accra, and the Regional Maritime Institute in Abidjan) as well as Member States' focal pointsto monitor study and research issues on maritime security including the collection, analysis and dissemination of maritime security data.

Action 1.4 –Strengthenregulations and the rule of law

30. Applicable legislation needs to be current and relevant, andadequate enforcement mechanisms are required to achieve these objectives.

31. Priority actions required:

i. Develop policy directives or regulations, supported withstandard operating procedures (SOP), for every maritime activity that affects the well-being of the maritime domain, with in-built compliance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure effective national implementation;

ii. Strengthen the criminal justice enforcement regimes at national level on maritime matters such as piracy and armed robbery, fishing, environmental protection, and maritime economy;

iii. Encourage the adoption of policies and legal reforms to establish resource-based legal frameworks for coastal resources, water resources, forestry, land management and biodiversity;

iv. Ensure adherence of enforcement agencies to national and international law;

v. Adopt a common ECOWAS policy requiring all shipping registered to ECOWAS Member States and all seaborne traffic transiting, or active in, ECOWAS waters, to be equipped with a Long Range tracking system. This should contribute in the monitoring of maritime activities and improve maritime security and safety. (Also see Strategic Objective 2: Maritime Security and Safety)

Action 1.5–Strengthen international cooperation

32. The international community benefits from a healthy, safe and prosperous African maritime domain. Thus, international recognition of African initiatives and cooperation tostabilizeand secure its maritime environment is important.

33. Priority actions required:

i. Encourage Member States to claim their respective outer maritime limits, including their extended continental shelf where applicable, and accept the associated responsibilities as foreseen by UNCLOS and the 1974International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea(SOLAS) as amended;

ii. Facilitate the implementation of the 2010 Revised AU Maritime Transport Charter and constructively participate in the implementation of the African Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIMS-50), which,among others,provides for the creation of a Combined Exclusive Maritime Zone of Africa (CEMZA) registered and recognised under international maritime law. Thiswill require international support and endorsement;

iii. To promote and deepen collaborative efforts between Member States and with international partners, relevant international organisations (e.g., United Nations funds and programs, the European Union (EU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)), and other technical institutions;

iv. Facilitate the development of regional memorandums of understanding (MoUs)/protocols for integrated maritime policies inconsultation with stakeholders to facilitate the exchange of best practices;

v. Implement the relevant ECOWAS mutual legal assistance (MLA) instruments in order to take advantage of the associated benefits.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVETWO: A SAFE AND SECURE MARITIME DOMAIN

34. Maritime security and safety constitutes a fundamental pillar for the survival of the maritime domain. It deals with threats to maritime navigation, transport and other peaceful uses of the maritime domain, particularly the oceans, seas and other navigable waterways. In this context, this EIMS stresses the need for urgent action to address prevailing and future threats to maritime security and safety.

Action 2.1 – Strengthen surveillance and information networks

35. Maritime surveillance is essential in ensuring the safe use of the sea, securing the EMD, and detecting threats relating to safe navigation, marine pollution, law enforcement and overall security.

36. Some monitoring and surveillance activities are carried out by Member States, but the threats they address are transnational in nature. Within most Member States surveillance activities concern fishing and the environment (e.g., oil pollution), policing the seas, detection/investigation of illicit trafficking, enforcement of customs and immigration legislation. These activities, however, resort under different enforcement agencies, operating independently from each other. This often results in the sub-optimal use of scarce resources.

37. ECOWAS needs to 'pool' the resources of Member States and adjacent regions and/or shared surveillance capabilities for the collaborative advantage of the region. The use of technology to enhance surveillance, monitoring and information gathering, analysis, processing and dissemination is essential for the optimal utilisation of the maritime environment, and Member States/regions should collaborate to the maximum extent possible.

38. Priority action areas:

i. Integrate, align or reorganise any existing cooperative efforts or arrangements relating to combating unlawful acts against maritime personnel, facilities or equipment;

ii. Enhance information/intelligence exchange, training and capacity building, including basic and improved specialised training for staff dealing with maritime security;

iii. Establish and expand operational networks among law enforcement entities operating at all seaports and major river border posts in Member States. Encourage Community Members also to establish specialised units for port control or mobile border operations in key areas;

iv. Develop and strengthen cooperation on patrolling, surveillance and information-gathering systems;

v. Outreach to civil society organisations to contribute towards the above efforts.

Action 2.2 –Protect and defendthe EMD

39. Member States must defend and protect the claimed territories in order to ensure safety and security, protection of the environment, fisheries control, and the rule of law within the EMD. Collaboration between neighbouringregions and countriesto collectively manage shared boundaries is essential.

40. Priority actions required:

i. Promote co-operation between Member States' navies, and maritime law enforcement entitiesand augment marine capabilities among naval forces of Member Statesto enable each to protect its EEZ and contribute to the collective maritime security in the region through joint patrols;

ii. Encourage Member States to negotiate and conclude MoUs and other agreements where necessarywith other UN Member States and international organisations, requiring all ships/vessels transiting West African waters to be fitted with transponders to facilitate tracking/monitoring and policing;

iii. Enhance cooperation with all stakeholders dealing with different maritime issues, including fisheries, maritime commerce, transport, maritime tourism and academia;

iv. Promote a cross-sector interagency approach to improve the concept of Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) in Africa.

Action 2.3– Prevent and combatpiracy and armed robbery at sea

41. The threat posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea to the West African maritime domain is not a recent development, as unlawful and other criminal activities have been linked to the West African waterways for centuries.

42. Piracy and armed robbery, mostly theft of petroleum assets and other cargo, cost the region billions in US $ each year. Maritime piracy and armed robberyfurther impose direct costs on humanitarian assistance and have an impact on maritime economic activities such as oil production, cost of energy, insurance and shipping costs, tourism and fishing. Pirate attacks also increase the risk to maritime trade, which rely on shipping, and the payment of ransom increases costs, which are then borne by consumers through increased prices of goods and services.

43. Priority actionsrequired:

i. Strengthen the national capacities to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate piracy and armed robbery at sea cases, and establish/improve national asset seizure, confiscation and management systems;

ii. Condemnpiracy and armed robbery at sea wherever it may occur in the world, particularly in West Africa and the Gulf of Guinea;

iii. Encourage Member Statesto adopt and implement all relevant national, regional, continental and international legal instruments, frameworks and initiatives for the prevention and combating of piracy and armed robberyat sea;

iv. Strengthen the technical and operational partnership between ECOWAS and ECCAS in the prevention and combating of piracy and armed robbery, terrorism, acts of kidnapping and hijacking, drug and human trafficking, arms smuggling and other unlawful acts committed in their combined maritime domains;

v. Strengthen cooperation with MOWCA and GGC to address the complex threats to maritime transport and navigation.

Action 2.4– Promote and protect the safety of maritime navigation and passage

44. SOLASrequires all coastal countries to ensure that hydrographic surveys are carried out, nautical charts and publications are published and kept up to date, and Maritime Safety Information (MSI) services are provided.

45. The hydrography[1]of Africa is poorly documented and maintained because of limited capacity to conduct the required surveys in accordance with the International Hydrographic Organisation's (IHO) specifications. Poor or out-dated port/harbour approaches can result in costly accidents (pollution, navigational risks and others) and/or even loss of life. It is the responsibility of those countries that have registered their claims to an EEZ to ensure the safe passage of all shipping through their waters.

46. There is limited capacity in Africa to chart its waters (EEZ) and to manage the requirements with respect to maritime navigational safety.The documenting of changes (to the sea floor/riverbeds, approaches and navigational systems) and issuing of navigational warnings are essential services that each country adjacent to oceans/seas, lakes and rivers must deliver to all users.

47. Priority actions required:

i. Member States should join the IHO so as to advance maritime safety, efficiency, and the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment,and to plan for compliance with its requirements. This might entail collaboration with other countries with hydrographic capabilities and with littoral countries;

ii. Member States are to review/develop and implement national maritime safety measures that will contribute to improving maritime safety across the ECOWAS region;

iii. Demand adherence to the 'Rule of the Road' and promote the peaceful use of the high seas and the principles of the freedom of navigation, freedom of over-flight, freedom to lay submarine cables and pipelines, freedom of fishing and freedom of scientific research, in accordance with the conditions stipulated in Article 87 of UNCLOS;

iv. Facilitate financing of safe maritime and inland waterway transport activities.

Action 2.5 – Eliminate maritimetransnational organised crime

48. Criminals are exploiting the weak law enforcement at sea inWest Africato traffic a range of products through the region: drugs (mostly cocaine from South America to Europe); cigarettes; weapons (conventional and non-conventional); and ammunition; people (destined for illegal migration or the sex trade); counterfeit medicines; toxic waste (including e-waste); oil; and natural

[1] Hydrography – study of seas, lakes and rivers

resources (such as hardwood and diamonds).

49. In its 2012 Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment (TOCTA) report for West Africa, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) also singled out West Africa as an emerging source of trafficking in methamphetamine for illicit markets in East Asia, with couriers transiting Europe. These transnational criminal networks are undermining the rule of law, deepening corruption; polluting the environment; violating human rights; stealing natural resources; depleting maritime resources; and jeopardizing health. The UNODC estimated that the volume of ~~pure~~ cocaine that transited West Africa in 2010 was about 18 tons amounting to about US$ 1.25 billion.

50. Priorityactions required:

i. Fully implement the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan to address the growing problem of illicit drug trafficking, organized crime, and drug abuse in West Africa;

ii. Initiate/extend actions to combat organized crime and illicit trafficking in West Africa;

iii. Strengthen the national capacities to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate organized crime and illicit trafficking cases, and establish/improve national asset seizure, confiscation and management systems;

iv. Seek to provide appropriate levels of equipment and incentives to maritime law enforcement agents and justice personnel in order to support their work.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVETHREE: MARITIME ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

51. A healthy environment is critical to human survivability. The economy and food security of the ECOWAS region is based importantly on natural resources extracted from the maritime domain. ThisECOWAS lifeline is,however,deteriorating fast through pollution and losing its rich biodiversity. As a result ecosystemsare destroyed and food resources are being depleted.

52. The Atlantic Ocean is a significant source of oil and gas, however the potential for pollution is always lurking. Africa's oil spill disasters are believed to cause damages worth billions of USD and significant loss of life and affect millions of people. In addition, ECOWAS Member States Coastal areas play a critical role in socio-economic development in West Africa. They are homes to majority of human population e.g. about 46% of Ghanaians and 70% of Senegalese live along the coast while approximately 70% of the cities in ECOWAS countries are located along the coast.

53. The West Africa pollution problem is aggravated by exposure to harmful and toxic waste or hazardous materials caused by the deliberate dumping of toxic chemical wastes.Vessels take advantage of inadequate monitoring and enforcement capabilities to dump harmful and toxic waste or hazardous materials, which has become extremely lucrative for organised crime syndicates. Industrial pollution and the discharge of domestic untreated waste are also major pollutants of large areas of the West African coast, including lagoons, creeks and near-shore areas. These have all been polluted,resulting in an increase in human diseases and loss of fisheries resources. Another cause of pollution is when oil tankers 'rinse' their tanks while transiting littoral waters in West Africa.

Action 3.1 –Prevent and combat pollution

54. Since human action is the major cause of environmental degradation and resource depletion, it means that the crisis in the ECOWAS environment can be reversed. There is therefore an urgent need for a strategic approach and systematic responses to more effectively manage the threats to the maritime environment.

55. Priority areas of action:

i. Ensure the implementation of the Abidjan Convention adopted in 1981 and entered into force in 1984 as the "Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern African Region".

ii. Ensure that all appropriate measures are inplace to prevent, reduce, combat and control pollution caused by normal or accidental discharges/dumping from ships and aircraft, and ensure the effective application of internationally recognised rules and standards relating to the control of this type of pollution;

iii. Prevent, reduce, combat and control pollution caused by industrial, agricultural and domestic discharges into rivers, estuaries and coastal establishments, and outfalls, coastal dumping or emanating from any other sources within the ECOWAS region;

iv. Prohibit within the ECOWAS region the importation, exportation, circulation and stockpiling or dumping of trans-boundary hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, chemical and biological waste or substances falling under the definition of 'hazardous waste' as defined in Article 2 of the 1991 Bamako Convention or as defined in Article 1 of the Basel Convention, in states' territorial seas, oceans, land, and air;

v. Establish stringent regulations and liability for chemical and hazardous waste management to ensure adequate treatment, safe disposal and effective management of hazardous waste within the Community;

vi. Ensure that policies, plans, programmes, strategies, projects and activities likely to affect natural resources, ecosystems and the environment in general are the subject of adequate impact assessment at the earliest possible stage and that regular environmental monitoring and audits are conducted;

vii. Establish a cooperative network based on coastal observation stations and remote sensing techniques to provide data on trends in marine environment,beach and coastal water pollution;

viii. Pursue national, regional or internationally-supported development projects that are environmentally friendly and demonstrate sound environmental management practices, such as projects supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank(WB), International Monetary Fund(IMF), the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO);

ix. Co-operate in activities with other parties includingECCAS, MOWCA, GGC and other strategic partners and interested organisations, directly and through their Secretariats, on the dissemination of information on the trans-boundary movement of chemical and hazardous and other wastes, especially e-waste in order to improve the environmentally sound management of such waste and to achieve the prevention of illegal traffic.

Action 3.2 –Managenaturaldisasters

56. Natural disasterssuch as floods, storms cause tremendous damage, destruction and loss of lives. In general the ECOWASregion is poorly equipped to respond to or mitigate the impact of such disasters andprocesses, and plans and capacities must be developed to respond to such eventualities.

57. Priority actions required:

i. Facilitate implementation of the ECOWAS framework for addressing the threat posed by disasters and other natural calamities, in particular, have Community Members renew their vows to exercise good faith in the implementation of the 2006 ECOWAS Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction (EPDRR);

ii. Strengthen capabilities at the national and regional level for a stronger disaster preparedness response, through regular training, simulations and mock disaster exercises;

iii. Become States Parties to all the UN, AU, ECOWAS and other relevant international legal instruments to regulate the occurrence of disasters and to protect humans against sudden and unforeseen natural calamities;

iv. Adopt a mainstream approach that integrates climate change considerations into coastal zone integrated management policies, programmes and activities at all levels of governance.

v. Monitor and set up safeguard systems against the effects of climate change on coastal and marine environments. In this context, Community Members should extend cooperation to advanced industrialised countries in order to benefit from their advanced early warning and early response systems;

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE FOUR: OPTIMISE THE ECOWAS MARITIME ECONOMY

58. The degradation of the maritime environment contributes to the depletion of natural resources,a cornerstone of the ECOWAS economy that is based on the exploration and exploitation of natural maritime resources such as fishing, oil and mineral extraction, and transport.The West African maritime economy faces a bleak future if drastic action and/or control measures are not implemented soon to reverse prevailing negative trends.

59. This objective should promote sustainable economic development by maximising the potential of maritime resources in West Africa, as well as ensure food security and preservemaritime biodiversity. In this context, it seeks to prevent and combat the current and future threats to the maritime economy.

Action 4.1 – Develop and promote fisheries and aquaculture

60. Due to depleted fish resources and stocks in many areas of sub-Saharan Africa fish consumption istoo low to benefit vulnerable populations. Changing eating habits and increased population growth would put further strain on the availability of scarce fish resources and would require a drastic increase in food production over the next decade.

61. Develop sustainable management practices to stop the over-exploitation of fish stock and

reduce the levels of pollution, thereby allowing the fish stock to increase, recover, and rebuild. It is claimed that fish stocks grow faster in marine reserves, where fishing is restricted. This is where aquaculture, or fish farming, can contribute to alleviate food insecurity and malnutrition. Aquaculture in Africa is, however, poorly developed in comparison with other continents and is hampered by limited access to land, poor governance, management, and other issues like water pollution, gender discrimination and unfair labour practices.

62. Priority actions required:

i. Encourage Member States to further consider, determine and implement responsive policy reforms in fisheries governance and to develop sustainable inland fisheries and aquaculture;

ii. Build on the NEPAD 2005 Abuja Declaration on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in Africa as well as on the UN Conservation and Fish Stocks management agreements, and as such incorporate and implement a Common Fisheries Policy for the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks in accordance with the ecosystems and precautionary approach for the whole CEMZA, when established;

iii. Support regional and basin-wide fisheries bodies to manage shared resources;

iv. Improve market access for small-scale inland producers, processors and traders to ensure that wealth generation and social and environmental benefits are sustained;

v. Conserve and rehabilitate aquatic environments and habitats essential to living aquatic resources and aquatic biodiversity; and take measures to prevent or mitigate the adverse impacts of aquaculture on the aquatic and coastal environment and communities;

vi. Promote and foster small-, medium- and large-scale aquaculture production in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner compatible with the rational use of land and water resources and evolving market opportunities;

vii. Implement programmes to recover fish stocks based on sound scientific information. Policies on the exploitation of fishing resources must consider the maritime ecosystem and police the terrain for compliance;

viii. Protect declared Marine Reserve Areas (MRA) and enforce the rules governing them to preserve West Africa's marine biodiversity, protect endangered marine species threatened by unsustainable overfishing in Africa, and encourage ecotourism.

Action 4.2–Prevent, deter, and eliminateillegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

63. IUU fishing presents a major threat to fish stocks, the marine environmental and coastal communities. It represents unfair competition for fishermen who exploit fish resources legally and results in significant economic losses for coastal States. Global losses are estimated at between US$10 billion and US$24 billion annually, representing between 11 and 26 million tonnes of fish[2]. IUU also often involves the capture of endangered marine species in West Africa, such as sharks, turtles and dolphins.

64. West African waters are estimated to have the highest levels of IUU fishing in the world as a proportion of the region's total catch, with the illegal, catch in the wider Eastern Central Atlantic estimated by the Marine Resources Assessment Group to be worth between US$828 million and

US$1.6 billion per year, or 37 percent of seafood catches.[2]

65. Priority actions required:

i. Work with neighbouring States and relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO) to impose stringent regulations on fishing activities and take all necessary measures to preserve the environment and the diversity of fish species in West Africa;

ii. Ensure that the harvesting, handling, processing and distribution of fish and fishery products are carried out in a manner that preserves and maintains the nutritional value, quality and safety of the products, reduces waste and minimises negative impacts on the environment;

iii. Encourage Member States to sign and ratify all the existing regional and international treaties dealing with fisheries and the preservation of natural resources, including the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing;

iv. Ensure that fisheries' interests, including the need for conservation of resources, are taken into account the coastal zone and are integrated into coastal area management, planning and development. Marine Protected Areas (MPA), involving 'co-management' between Governments and coastal communities can be an effective management tool;

v. Encourage Member Statesauthorising fishing and fishing support vessels to fly their flags to exercise effective control over those vessels in accordance with international law, and in adherence to all global, continental and regional initiatives for the responsible management of the EMD. States should desist from flagging foreign-owned fishing vessels that have no genuine link to the country, and restrict fishing access by vessels flying 'Flags of Convenience;'

vi. Ensure participation of all stakeholders in policy-making, planning and implementation of sound fishing practices;

vii. Encourage Member States to share amongst themselves (making use of relevant ECOWAS bodies and other regional institutions such as RFMOs) the names of industrial fishing vessels that are licensed to operate in their respective EEZs and any warnings of fines issued for IUU fishing. To enable this sharing of information, Member States should require that all industrial fishing vessels operating in their EEZs use an internationally recognized Unique Vessel Identifier, such as an IMO number, and that this number be displayed at all times and used when information is shared regionally regarding vessel access and sanctions.

Action 4.3 – Prevent illegal tapping and theft of oil

66. Although currently centred in Nigeria the problem of illegal tapping of oils risks spreading to other ECOWAS Member States. Moreover, crude oil in Nigeria is also exported via the territorial waters and EEZs of neighbouring states which therefore demands collective, regional action to address this problem. Apart from the threat of pollution, governments and oil-producing companies suffer substantial loss of income. Illegal oil tapping further contributes to the escalation of violence and criminality due to the fight for control over bunkering opportunities.

[2] Agnew DJ. Pearce J, Pramod G, Peatman T, Watson R, et al., "Estimating the Worldwide Extent of Illegal Fishing" (Marine Resources Assessment Group and University of British Columbia, 2009).

67. Priority actions required:

i. Condemn and criminalise theft and illegal tapping of oil and other natural resources;

ii. Strengthen legislation to regulate oil and gas exploration and exploitation and to specify the environmental responsibilities of explorers;

iii. Conduct research and empirical studies to understand the nature, characteristics and true dimension of the illegal tapping of oil and gas in West Africa;

iv. Strengthen the national capacities to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate cases linked to the illegal tapping of oil and gas, and establish/improve national asset seizure, confiscation and management systems;

v. Encourage Member States to share experiences and facilitate the development of regional mechanisms to improve oil and gas governance in the region as a means of preventing violent conflict and insecurity. In this regard, elaborate an ECOWAS policy to regulate and set common standards for Member States on the governance of natural resources in West Africa, particularly in a way that benefits local communities;

vi. Support intra- and inter-regional exchange of experiences and development of innovative approaches to resource governance. In this context, consider practical measures for strengthening cooperation with ECCAS, MOWCA, GGC and other regional actors and stakeholders.

Action4.4 – Promote marine tourism

68. Tourism can contribute towealthcreation and employment, andstimulate the protection and enhancement of environmental and cultural resources. Africa offers considerable, albeit largely untapped, potential for tourism. Yet the tourism industry in much ofthe continentis not internationally competitive,despite some positive development in the past 30 years, as travellersincreasingly demand higher quality tourism experiences. Much more can be done.

69. One component is the promotion of the rich regional maritime cultural heritage, the legacy of physical artefacts and intangible attributes of indigenoussocieties that were inherited from past generations and bequeathed for the benefit of future generations. Many of these sites are either underwater or adjacent to the ocean, rivers, estuaries and lakes.

70. The efficient management of Africa's maritime cultural heritage can create important tourist attractions and should be developed and managed to ensure sufficient revenue generation.Underwater heritage sites are in danger of destruction and historic cultural heritage should be protected and preserved. In this context, conservation should also include those ecosystems that are most representative of and peculiar to areas under thejurisdiction of Member States, or are characterised by a high degree of biological diversity.

71. Priority actions required:

i. Encourage Member States to implement the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural Underwater Heritage Sites;

ii. Identify tourism as a priority sector for economic growth;

iii. Identify key 'anchor' projects at the national and sub-regional level that will generate significant spin-offs and assist in promoting economic integration – i.e. cross-border nature

parks, maritime reserves;

iv. Promote tourism marketing. Develop a regional marketing strategy;

v. Promote regional partnerships;

vi. Promote research and development;

vii. Promote investment in the construction and development of environmentally friendly tourism infrastructure and products;

viii. Develop a Code of Conduct and Ethics for the regional tourist industry focusing on maritime tourism;

ix. Mobilise financial resources;

x. Member States to institute collaborative agreements within their own governments, civil society and other interested parties to contribute to the preservation of their national heritage.

Action 4.5 – Develop maritime-related infrastructure

72. West Africa's infrastructure deficit is one of the key factors preventing it from realising its full potential for economic growth, competitiveness in global markets and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Adequate infrastructure plays a critical role in economic development and poverty reduction. Inadequate maritime transport-related infrastructure, like ports, harbours, their equipment and the connecting rail- and road networks, imposes major costs on business in terms of lost output and additional costs incurred. Some estimates suggest that with an improved infrastructure stock, economic growth rates could be at least one per cent higher than they are today. It also expected that volume of trade carried at sea will increase by 50 per cent over the next 20 years, from the 35 000 billion tonne miles it is now.[3]Developing and completing infrastructure networks is therefore recognised as a critical component of advancing regional integration.

73. Priority actions required:

i. Formulate a masterplanfor the development of regional maritime-related infrastructure (e.g., energy, transport, tourism, trans-boundary water resources); opportunities for the manufacturing industries, witha local shipbuilding, repair and maintenance focus; and service industries; to generate employment, expertise and investment;

ii. Prepare an implementation strategyand processes including, in particular, a priority action plan;

iii. Develop through the inter-departmental or cluster approach an effective framework for interaction between differentindustries and sectors, identify the interfaces between the different sectors, and develop mechanisms for their optimal management. This boundary management should be carefully studied to avoid confrontation and deliberately planned to derive maximum benefit;

iv. Support initiatives by Member States and private businesses to establish public/private partnerships (PPP) to meet their objectives, i.e. shipbuilding, -repair and services. They should similarly consider the outsourcing of maritime centres of excellence to public/private partnerships, to provide quality, durable and efficient service to the

[3] Current Awareness Bulletin, Volume XXIV, No 7, July 2012, MaritimeKnowledgeCentre@imo.org

maritime industry;

v. All maritime domains, like the port authorities of Member States are encouraged to conclude partnership agreements to support the use of available resources at sub-regional, regional and continental level. These clusters should be based on the principle of 'from Africa for Africa' to retain and maintain the required maritime expertise;

vi. Encouraged Member States to assess the efficiency of their major ports and institute measures for improvements. Inefficiency equates with lack of competitiveness, which increases the cost of trading through those ports). Shipping companies will seek alternatives if this is not addressed;

vii. Support and encourage initiatives such as the West and Central Africa Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Abuja MoU) towards eradicating the operation of sub-standard shipping practices, enhancing security and safety, protecting the marine environment from pollution and improving the working and living conditions of personnel on board ships.

Action 4.6 –Regulate mining and other exploitation of natural resources

74. The ocean and riverbedsare rich in oil,and precious minerals that offer many economic development opportunities, but need to be managed responsibly by competent authorities at national and regional levels. National governments must, under the guidance of the regional bodies, guide responsible extraction to the benefit of all their people. However, the extraction, exploration or deep-sea mining of these raise concerns about the potential environmental impacts of such activities. The protection of the marine environment is of utmost importance.

75. Priority actions required:

i. Scrupulously enforce the ECOWAS Directive C/DIR.3/05/09 of May 2009 on the Harmonisation of Guiding Principles and Policies I Mining Sector. In this context, review the Directive with a view to transform it into a more stringently binding mechanism with monitoring powers and mechanisms, such as a Convention;

ii. In support of the AU/NEPAD initiatives,promote intra-African trade in energyat the regional and continental level, to influence economic and social development and the economic integration of the regional economic communities;

iii. Ensure the development of energy resources and their exports for intra-African trade and global export to the rest of the world and the processing of such resources on African soil;

iv. Ensure that all necessary environmental and human rights concerns have been addressed and respected by all stakeholders in all their operations in West Africa.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVEFIVE: PROMOTE MARITIME AWARENESS AND RESEARCH

76. One of the greatest challenges to maritime safety and security in the regionis the poor maritime domain awareness. Therefore, the need to create awarenessin the uses and abuses of the EMD,the danger this poses and therequired actions in keeping with Best Management Practices (BMP) to address these abuses is crucial. Knowledge about this, transferred through education and development of technical skills in the diverse fields of the maritime domain, is required. Any policy on the maritime domain, whether at the national, regional or international level, must address this challenge.

Action 5.1 –Create awareness

77. This action aims at deepening awareness and knowledge of the threats to the EMD.

78. Priority actions required:

i. Increase the awareness of decision makers, the general public and other stakeholders of the challenges and economic development opportunities related to the maritime domain and policy responses;

ii. Develop regional programmes, including the use of local and international media networks, television, radio, and Internet sites to raise the visibility of Maritime Africa, and improve the image of maritime activities and the seafaring professions;

iii. Collaborate with partners with a view to contribute to the development of an Atlas of the African Seas, as envisaged by the AU;

iv. Promote the participation of maritime officials and other appropriate personnel in programs offered by the World Maritime University, the International Maritime Law Institute, and other international centres of excellence;

v. Enhance and develop academic and vocational programmes and curricula aimed at introducing maritime issues in schools and universities;

vi. Encourage Member States to actively support the celebrations of the oceans every year with the'World Oceans Day'on June 8 , and the IMO's World Maritime Day during the last week of September;

vii. Enhance advocacy and awareness to ensure gender mainstreaming in accordance with UNSC Resolution 1325.

Action 5.2 –Conduct maritime research

79. Knowledge is the foundation of quality decision-making and needs to be continuously supported by relevant research that should inform action for policy and project implementation.Article 243 of the 1982 UNCLOS, which has been ratified by all Community Member States, stipulates that 'States and competent international organisations shall cooperate, through the conclusion of bilateral and multilateral agreements to create favourable conditions for the conduct of marine scientific research in the marine environment and to integrate the efforts of scientists in the studying the essence of phenomena and processes occurring in the marine environment and the interrelations between them'.

80. Priority actions required:

i. Take the lead in promoting and building a maritime knowledge base that will serve as a foundation for establishing the required knowledge, skills and attitudes for an improved African maritime culture. This knowledge base will indicate the education, training and development needs that will assist in the creation of a maritime culture and encourage innovation within the maritime domain;

ii. Raise the visibility and profile of the maritime industry in Africa, and ensure that, through research, the issues that are applicable to the oceans and seas are receiving similar attention as the region's inland challenges;

iii. Promote a concept that will provide West Africans with better and wider career prospects in the maritime environment. This will include broadening the scope of maritime studies and enhancing skills and qualifications for the maritime professions;

iv. Enhance and developadequate national and regional maritime research and educational institutions to serve all requirements in the EMD;

v. Encourage different research institutions to focus on niche areas and share knowledge/findings.The research must link and support continental research priorities, recommend solutions for cross-sectorial challenges and maximise synergies between Member States and regional efforts. More investment in marine research and technology will allow for innovative solutions in the pursuit of economic growth without further aggravating environmental degradation;

vi. Encourage Member States to support allocation or sourcing of funding for national and regional maritime training, research and education institutions, as well as granting training scholarships;

vii. Encourage Member States to benefit from the Regional Maritime University in Accra and the Regional Maritime Institute in Abidjan;

viii. Review restrictive national legislation and allow business and industry to initiate their own collaboration mechanisms to promote an African/regional network of maritime clusters.

SECTION III

IMPLEMENTATION

ECOWAS Commission

81. The strategic level ECOWAS entity for the realisation of the EIMS consists of a cluster of Commission departments (Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources, Human Development and Gender, Infrastructure & Energy, Macro Economic Policy, External Relations, Legal Affairs, Political Affairs, Peace & Security, and Trade, Customs, Industry and Free Movement). In this regard the cluster will establish appropriate mechanisms for the operationalization of the EIMS. The Regional Security Division will coordinate maritime affairs at the Commission. Civil society organisations (CSOs) shall play a complementary role in the implementation of this Strategy. In order to mobilise the necessary resources and funds for the implementation and realisation of the objectives of EIMS funding will be required. In this regard, the cost for the implementation of EIMS needs to be determined after which appropriate funding mechanisms need to be developed.

Maritime Security and Safety Unit

82. In order to augment the coordinating role of the Regional Security Division, a Maritime Security and Safety Unit will be set up within the Regional Security Division. The Unit will serve to coordinate the activities of the Commission and provide support services to the ECOWAS Maritime Zones. The details of the Unit will be elaborated in a Directive to be issued by the President of the

Commission in setting up the Unit.

Multi-lateral cooperation

83. The second level of implementation consists of collaboration with relevant regional organisations like MOWCA and GGC or any other organisation that pursues the same objectives within the maritime domain.

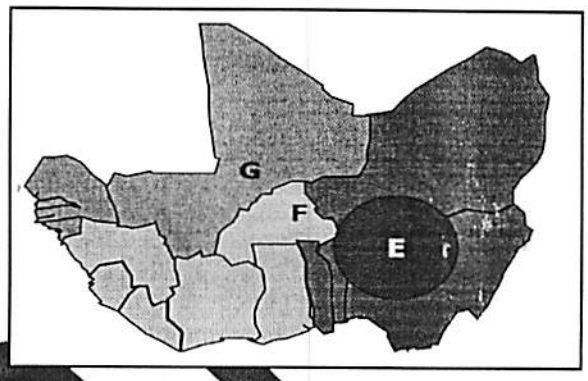
ECOWAS Maritime Zones

84. The EMZ is structured into three main zones as follows:

i. Zone E – Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Niger

ii. Zone F – Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Burkina Faso, Guinea

iii. Zone G – Senegal, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau andMali



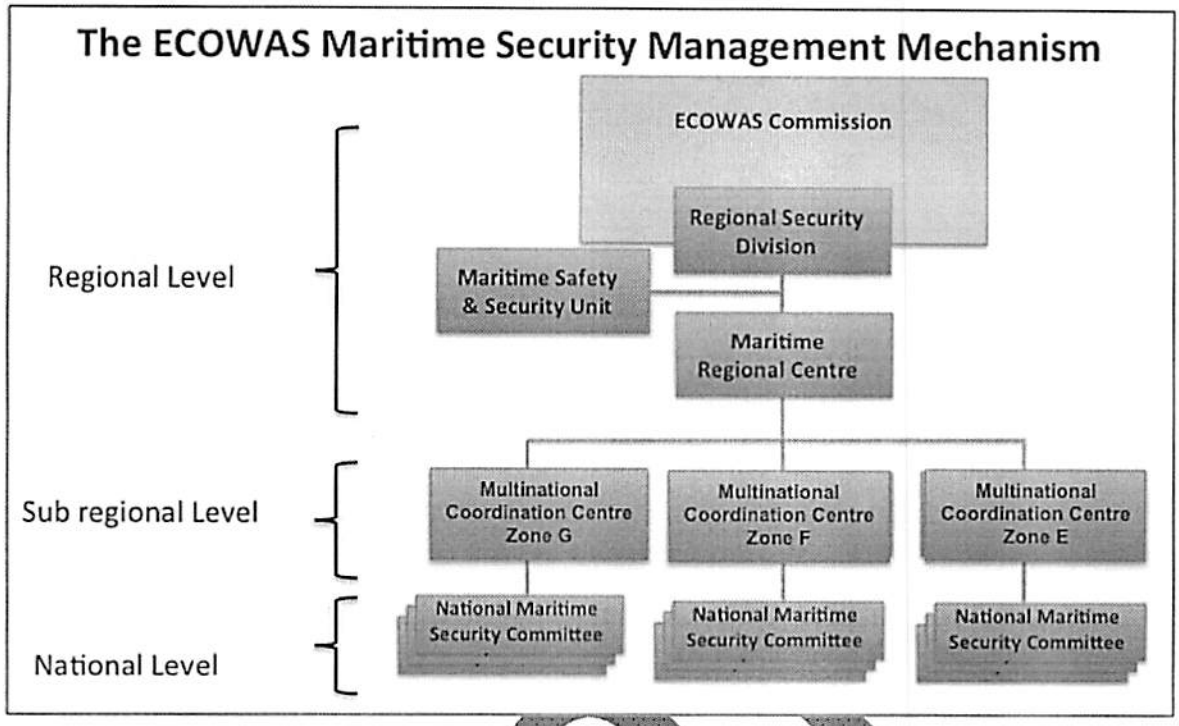
85. Zone E shall serve as a pilot zone.

86. A Regional Maritime Coordinating Centre (RMCC),to be located in one of the Member States, will coordinate the three zones. Each zone will have a Multinational Coordination Centre (MCC), equipped with its own monitoring and enforcement mechanism, staffed with representatives from countries of that zone.

87. Each country is expected to set up a National Maritime Security Committee (NMSC), to collect national data and feed this to the zonal MCC.

88. Further details on the EMZ, including functional modalities, funding and reporting,will be elaborated in a Statute of the EMZ to be adopted.

Diagrammatic Structure of EMZ



SECTION IV

INTERNATIONAL, CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS

89. Member States are required to urgently sign, ratify or accede to, and ensure effective implementation ofthe following International maritime legal instruments.

Annex A:International Legal Instruments

90. Member States are required to urgently sign, ratify or accede to, and ensure effective implementation of the following continental maritime legal instruments.

Annex B:Continental Legal Instruments

91. Member States are required to urgently sign, ratify or accede to, and ensure effective implementation of the following regional maritime legal instruments.

Enclosure C:International Legal Instruments

COMUNIDADE ECONOMICA DOS
ESTADOS DA AFRICA OCIDENTAL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
WEST AFRICAN STATES

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE
DE L'OUEST

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF ECOWAS HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, 28 and 29 March 2014

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

1. The Forty-fourth Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was held on 28 and 29 March 2014 in Yamoussoukro, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire and Chairman of the Authority.

2. The following Heads of State and Government or their duly accredited representatives were present:

- H. E. **Thomas Boni YAYI**, President of the Republic of Benin
- H. E. **Blaise COMPAORE**, President of Burkina Faso
- H. E. **José Maria Pereira NEVES**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Cape Verde
- H. E. **Alassane OUATTARA**, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
- H. E. **Sheikh Prof. Alhaji Dr.Yahya A. J. J. JAMMEH**, President of the Republic of The Gambia
- H.E. **John Dramani MAHAMA**, President of the Republic of Ghana
- H.E. **Alpha CONDE**, President of the Republic of Guinea
- H.E. **Manuel Sérifo NHAMAJO**, Interim President of the Republic of Guinea Bissau
- H. E. **Ellen JOHNSON-SIRLEAF (Mrs.)**, President of the Republic of Liberia
- H.E. **Ibrahim Boubacar KEITA**, President of the Republic of Mali
- H. E. **Mahamadou ISSOUFOU**, President of the Republic of Niger
- H. E. **Goodluck Ebele JONATHAN**, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
- H. E. **Ernest Bai KOROMA**, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
- H.E. **Macky SALL**, President of the Republic of Senegal

- H.E. **Robert DUSSEY,** Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Togolese Republic.

3. The President of the West African Monetary Union (UEMOA), the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for West Africa, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Mali, the representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Governor of the Central Bank of West Africa, the Executive Secretary of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILLS), and the Executive Secretary of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), also attended the Summit as observers.

4. The Heads of State and Government took note of the 2013 Annual Report of the President of the Commission, the Reports of the 71st Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, the 31st Meeting of the Mediation and Security Council, and the 12th and 13th Extraordinary Sessions of the Council of Ministers, presented by the Chairman of the Council. Authority also took note of the briefing by H.E. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Chairman of the Regional Contact Group on Guinea Bissau, as well as the Memorandum of the President of the Commission on the situation in Guinea Bissau. It also took note of the briefings of Presidents Mahamadou Issoufou of Niger; Macky Sall of Senegal; Alassane Ouattara of Cote d'Ivoire; and Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso, respectively on the issues related to the common currency; negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreement with the EU; air transport; and the free Movement of Persons and Goods.

5. Authority commended the quality of the reports presented. It endorsed the recommendations therein contained and intended to consolidate and improve upon the gains made in West Africa's integration process.

6. The Heads of State and Government welcomed the significant achievements made in all the areas and renewed their firm political commitment to deepening regional integration, the accelerated actualization of the various Community projects, and the consolidation of democracy, good governance, peace and security in West Africa.

7. Following in-depth analyses of the stakes in the regional integration process, Authority arrived at the following conclusions and specific decisions:

REGIONAL ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE COMMON MARKET

8. The Heads of State and Government reiterate the need to record a more vigorous economic growth to sustain employment and to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

9. To sustain the good economic prospects in the Region, Authority urges Member States to pursue efforts deployed towards putting in place sound and stable

macroeconomic frameworks. Summit calls on Member States adhere to macroeconomic convergence principles, and directs the President of the Commission to ensure a rigorous follow-up.

10. With a view to consolidating the Common Market, Authority reiterates its decisions taken at the Dakar Summit on the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET). In this regard, it welcomes the measures already taken towards strengthening the industrial strategy, the harmonization of trade policies, and putting in place a fiscal transition program, and the full implementation of the Trade Liberalization Scheme (TLS) by all Members States.

11. Authority commends H.E. Blaise Compaoré, President of Burkina Faso, for his propellant role in ensuring the free movement of persons and goods. In particular, Authority expresses its appreciation of the urgent measures proposed in the roadmap developed towards this end. Authority directs the Commission and all the stakeholders in Member States to take the appropriate measures towards the expeditious implementation of the roadmap. It encourages President Blaise Compaoré to persevere in his efforts.

12. Summit also commends H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou, President of the Republic of Niger, and H.E. John Dramani Mahama, President of the Republic of Ghana, for the measures taken in fulfillment of the mandate given to them by Authority to oversee the process towards monetary convergence in the Region.

13. The Heads of State and Government welcome the conclusions of the first meeting of the Presidential Task Force on the Monetary Cooperation Program. They endorse the graduated approach proposed for achieving monetary union by 2020. They direct the President of the Commission to draw up, in collaboration with the appropriate regional institutions, a detailed roadmap of the measures to take in order to meet the agreed deadlines.

14. Authority invites all central banks to be fully involved in this process, in particular in the harmonization of monetary policy frameworks, banking regulations, and the reform of the financial sectors. Summit encourages Presidents Mahamadou Issoufou of Niger and John Dramani Mahama of Ghana to pursue their oversight role in this major project.

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (EPA)

15. The Heads of State and Government reaffirm their strong commitment to the regional integration agenda.

16. Authority welcomes the participatory, consensual and constructive approach that prevailed in the West African region and paved the way for the finalization of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations with the European Union.

17. The Heads of State and Government note with satisfaction the significant progress made by the Chief Negotiators in the quest for compromise. They commend H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, for the impetus given to the process. They also congratulate the Chief Negotiators for the progress achieved.

18. Authority endorses the conclusion of the Agreement in principle but notes that there are outstanding technical issues. Consequently, Authority directs the Chief Negotiators to take all the necessary steps within the next two months to address the issues raised by some Member States, in particular Nigeria, prior to signing the Agreement. Authority also directs the Chief Negotiators to establish a committee, including representatives from Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire, to look at these issues and to present the final outcome to the Heads of State and Government.

19. Summit directs the President of the ECOWAS Commission, in collaboration with his WAEMU homologue, to enter into negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, which also belongs to the geographical configuration of the negotiations, with a view to concluding an Association Agreement.

SECTORAL POLICIES

20. The Heads of State and Government renew their firm commitment to strengthening the resilience capacities of the Region, in particular through THE effective implementation of food security and climate change adaptation programs, as well as regional policies on sustainable energy and social development policies.

21. Summit reaffirms its commitment to regional infrastructure development and directs the Commission to pursue its coordination efforts in this area, as well as the mobilization of adequate resources for the timely implementation of the master plans adopted in this regard, and ensuring an equitable distribution of projects in the Region.

22. In this regard, Authority welcomes the signing of the Treaty on the Lagos-Abidjan Highway Project by Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo. It welcomes the commitment made by these Member States to confer an international status on this regional project, and to accelerate its actualization. Authority calls on development partners and financial institutions to support its implementation.

23. The Heads of State and Government welcome the full disposition demonstrated by H.E. Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, in the coordination of efforts towards the development of regional infrastructures, and encourage him to persevere in his actions in this direction.

PEACE AND SECURITY

24. Authority reaffirms the intrinsic link between the drive towards the consolidation of economic integration and the efforts to stabilize the peace and security environment in West Africa. In that regard, Authority renews its commitment to the promotion and defense of the principles of democracy, good governance, peace and security undergirding Community Acts.

25. The Heads of State and Government note with satisfaction the progressive consolidation of the transitional processes in the Region, demonstrated by the successful conclusion of the Presidential and legislative elections in Mali, the peaceful conduct of legislative elections in Guinea and Togo, as well as the significant progress achieved in the preparations towards the general elections in Guinea Bissau.

26. In view of the critical elections scheduled for 2015 in Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Nigeria and Togo, Authority expresses its strong determination to contribute towards the conduct of these elections in a peaceful and consensual environment, and in conformity with regional norms.

27. The Heads of State and Government, deeply concerned by the devastating impacts of violent extremism and growing transnational organized crime, in particular terrorism, piracy, and trafficking in humans, weapons and drugs, strongly condemn the continued atrocities perpetrated by terrorist and criminal networks in the Region, in particular in the north of Mali and Nigeria. They reaffirm their resolute commitment to fighting the scourges and urge Member States and partners to intensify coordinated efforts towards this end.

28. In line with its commitment to tackle the challenges in the Region's maritime domain and to complement continental and international initiatives, Authority endorses the adoption of the ECOWAS Integrated Maritime Strategy (EIMS) and directs the Commission to take the necessary measures towards its operationalization.

29. The Heads of State and Government decorate General Soumaïla Bakayoko, Chief of Defense Staff of Cote d'Ivoire and Chairman of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff, Major-General Shehu Usman Abdulkadir, Force Commander of AFISMA and the late Brigadier-General Yaye Garba, Deputy Force Commander of AFISMA (posthumously), for their dedication to the cause of peace and security in West Africa. They also decide to honor all the valiant uniformed men and women who have risked their lives in the services of AFISMA.

30. Authority shares the testimony of recognition by H.E. Ibrahim Boubakar Kéita, President of the Republic of Mali, in decorating, on behalf of the Government and people of Mali, Excellencies Alassane Ouattara, Chairman of the Authority, Blaise Compaoré, the ECOWAS Mediator in Mali, Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, the Associate Mediator in Mali, Thomas Yayi Boni, former Chairman of the African Union, and Kadré Désiré Ouédraogo, President of the ECOWAS Commission, for their exceptional contributions towards the resolution of the crisis in Mali. Authority thanks H.E. Ibrahim Boubakar Kéita for this gesture of acknowledgement towards ECOWAS.

On Mali

31. The Heads of State and Government welcome the signing of the modus operandi for the cantonment of armed groups, and urge all the parties to the Ouagadougou Preliminary Agreement to ensure its full implementation. To this end, they reiterate the call on all non-state armed groups in Mali to lay down their weapons, submit to cantonment, and pursue the peaceful resolution of disputes within the framework of the inclusive national dialogue.

32. Authority encourages the Government of Mali to take full responsibility for, and expedite the preparation and conduct of, the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue towards national reconciliation, with the support of ECOWAS and the international community.

33. Summit commends H.E. Ibrahim Boubacar Kéita, President of Mali, and his Government for the determined efforts towards consolidating the unity and territorial integrity of the country, national reconstruction, and the drive to promote good governance, the rule of law and human rights in the country. It encourages the Government to pursue the fight against impunity, grave violations of human rights, and corruption, in strict adherence to the rule of law.

34. Authority endorses the conclusions of the Council of Ministers on the findings in the Report of the After-Action Review of ECOWAS Initiatives and Responses to the Multidimensional Crises in Mali.

35. The Heads of State and Government renew confidence in H.E. Blaise Compaoré, President of Burkina Faso and ECOWAS Mediator in Mali, and H.E. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Associate Mediator, for the remarkable results achieved in their mediation efforts in Mali.

On Guinea Bissau

36. Authority commends the Interim President, H.E. Manuel Sérifo Nhamajo, the Transitional Government, the Popular National Assembly, and all the other stakeholders in the transitional process in Guinea Bissau for the self-sacrifice and sense of compromise that have propelled the country progressively towards the critical general elections of 13 April 2014. It exhorts them to maintain the same posture in the run-up to, during, and after the elections.

37. Authority directs the Commission to take all necessary additional measures to ensure the conduct of peaceful, free, fair, and transparent elections. It also appeals to the international community to extend assistance to Guinea Bissau to ensure the successful conclusion of the elections.

38. The Heads of State and Government caution members of the Defense and Security Forces, as well as the political class, in Guinea Bissau against any acts that may disrupt the smooth conduct of the electoral process, failing which perpetrators would be liable to severe consequences. They exhort all the political parties, candidates and their supporters to refrain from acts of provocation, incitement and any other action that may impede the successful

conduct of the elections, and to resort to exclusively peaceful and legal means in seeking redress to any grievances.

39. Summit urges the African Union and the rest of the international community to expedite the lifting of sanctions imposed on Guinea Bissau, and to join forces with ECOWAS in facilitating the adoption and implementation of a consensual post-electoral program aimed at the structural reform of the institutions and processes in the country.

40. Authority commends the ECOWAS Mission in Guinea Bissau (ECOMIB) for demonstrating professionalism and dedication to service and decide to extend the Mission's mandate till 31 December 2014. It urges Member States to expedite additional financial and logistics support to sustain its operations.

41. The Heads of State and Government decide to extend the transition period in Guinea Bissau till the inauguration of the legitimate authorities.

42. Authority notes the progress made in the implementation of the roadmap of the Defence and Security Sector Program (DSSRP) and urges the authorities in Guinea Bissau to extend the necessary cooperation towards its successful completion.

43. The Heads of State and Government express gratitude to all Member States who have made financial and other contributions towards the electoral process. They also express appreciation to the Government of Timor Leste for the generous financial and logistics support to Guinea Bissau in this process.

44. The Heads of State and Government express deep gratitude to H.E. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Chairman of the Regional Contact Group on Guinea Bissau (RCG-GB), for his proven commitment, as well as the generous financial and logistics support, to the transitional process in Guinea Bissau. They also express appreciation to H.E. Alpha Condé, President of the Republic of Guinea and Mediator in Guinea Bissau, and the other members of the RCG, for their important role in ensuring a successful and inclusive transition in the country.

45. Summit mandates the RCG-GB to analyze the post-electoral challenges in Guinea Bissau, propose the tasks needed to meet the challenges, and the role of ECOWAS in facilitating their fulfillment.

46. Authority presents a special motion in recognition of the decisive role played by H.E. Manuel Serifo Nhamjo, Interim President of Guinea Bissau, in the smooth conduct of the transitional process in his country. The Heads of State and Government also address their best wishes to him.

47. Summit decides to remain seized by the political and security situation in West Africa.

INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

48. In application of its Decision to expand the Commission membership to fifteen (15) and to make new statutory appointments to the other ECOWAS Institutions, the Authority takes note of the appointment, by the Council of Ministers, of:

- **Mr. Jean Pierre Ezin** (Benin), as Commissioner for Education, Science and Culture;
- **Dr. Isaias Barreto Olimpio da Rosa** (Cape Verde), as Commissioner for Telecommunications and Information Technology;
- **Mr. Kalilou Traoré** (Côte d'Ivoire), as Commissioner for Industry and Private Sector Promotion;
- **Mr. Stephen Nartey** (Ghana), as Commissioner for General Administration and Conference;
- **Mr. Bangoura Morlaye** (Guinea), as Commissioner for Energy and Mines;
- **Mr. Silva Monteiro João Jose** (Guinea Bissau), as Commissioner for Human Resources;
- **Dr. Fatimata Dia Sow** (Senegal), as Commissioner for Social Affairs and Gender;
- **Dr. Muhammad Sani Bello** (Nigeria), as Financial Controller;
- **Dr. Crespin Xavier** (Niger), as Director-General of WAHO;
- **Dr. Laurent Aholofou Assogba** (Benin), as Deputy Director-General of WAHO;
- **Mr. Adama Coulibaly** (Côte d'Ivoire), as Director-General of GIABA; and
- **Mr. Brian Sapati** (Ghana), as Deputy Director-General of GIABA.

49. Authority endorses the renewal of the ECOWAS Court of Justice through the nomination of the following seven Judges:

- **Mr. Jerome Traore** Republic of Burkina Faso;
- **Mr. Yaya Boiro** Republic of Guinea;
- **Mrs. Maria Do Ceu Monteiro Silva** Republic of Guinea Bissau
- **Mr. Micah Wilkins Wright** Republic of Liberia
- **Mr. Hameye Foune Mahlmadane** Republic of Mali
- **Mr. Friday Chijoke Nwoke** Federal Republic of Nigeria
- **Mr. Alioun Sall** Republic of Senegal

50. To ensure higher efficiency in program implementation, Summit encourages all the Institutions to continue their efforts towards improving management, as well as administrative and financial policies and procedures.

51. Authority directs the Council of Ministers to reexamine the ECOWAS recruitment criteria with a view to ensuring greater equity in the distribution of posts among Member States.

52. Summit urges Member States to ensure the implementation of all the provisions of the Community Levy Protocol.

53. Authority expresses appreciation to all the ECOWAS partners for their continued interest in and support for the Region's peace and security and economic integration agenda. In particular, Authority welcomes the new financial commitments made by the European Union within the framework of the Regional Indicative Program of the 11th European Development Fund in support of ECOWAS efforts to consolidate peace and stability, enhance market integration, strengthen resilience and ensure food security.

54. The Heads of State and Government pay glowing tribute to **H.E. Mr. Alassane Ouattara,** President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for the major achievements recorded by ECOWAS under his chairmanship and leadership. They express profound gratitude for his significant contributions to the deepening of the integration process and the consolidation of peace and security in West Africa. The Heads of State and Government commend, in addition to his great statesmanship, his unwavering dedication to the service of the Region, and his total commitment to the principles and ideals that animate ECOWAS.

55. Summit decides to elect **H.E. John Dramani Mahama,** President of the Republic of Ghana, as Chairman of the Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government for a one-year term.

56. The Heads of State and Government decide to hold their next Ordinary Session in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, at a date to be fixed after consultations.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH, 2014.

THE AUTHORITY

FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF ECOWAS HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, 28-29 March 2014

VOTE OF THANKS

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States, meeting in our 44th Ordinary Session from 28th to 29th March 2014 in Yamoussoukro, express our sincere gratitude to **His Excellency Alassane Ouattara,** President of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire and Chairman of the Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government, as well as his Government and people of Cote d'Ivoire, for the generous and authentically African hospitality extended to us and to our delegations.

We particularly pay homage to **His Excellency Alassane Ouattara**, for the remarkable achievements in the economic integration and political stabilization processes in West Africa under his mandate and leadership of our cherished Regional Organization, ECOWAS.

In this regard, we the Heads of State and Government express our admiration for the masterful, insightful, and authoritative manner in which His Excellency Alassane Ouattara presided over our deliberations, which contributed significantly to the formulation of pertinent Decisions towards deepening the integration process.

In view of the importance of the issues considered, we are equally grateful to him for the relaxed atmosphere that prevailed throughout our deliberations, as well as for the excellent facilities made available to us to ensure a successful conduct of our Session.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 29TH DAY OF MARCH 2014

THE AUTHORITY