



ECOWAS counter-terrorism strategy implementation plan

Pillar 1: Prevent

NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
Total rejection of terrorism					
1	Every Member State should unambiguously and unequivocally reject terrorism in all its forms and manifestations irrespective of wherever it may occur or whoever may have committed it, as a serious criminal offence	Member States ECOWAS Commission to monitor actions	Condemnation of terrorism by all 15 Member States	Immediate	AU, CTED, CTITF
2	Implement a zero-tolerance policy on terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	No safe havens	Immediate	AU, UN, EU, CSOs and media
Eliminate conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism					
1	Intensify efforts to fully implement all ECOWAS instruments relating to the maintenance and promotion of peace and security in West Africa	Member States ECOWAS Commission and all relevant institutions, including the Panel of Elders	A secure community living in peace	Continuous	UN, AU, EU, CSOs, media and development partners
2	Intensify efforts to resolve all armed conflicts and other conditions of instability by promoting national reconciliation, interfaith dialogue, and conflict prevention, management and resolution	ECOWAS Commission, Panel of Elders and ECOWARN	Conflict-free community	Ongoing	UN, AU, EU, CSOs, media and development partners



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
3	Adopt and, where necessary, review and strengthen policies to ensure transparency, equality, inclusivity and broad-based representation of various segments of society, including ethnic, religious, gender and youth groups, in all government's political and economic platforms	Member States	A community based on justice, fairness and transparency	Continuous	UN, AU, NEPAD, APRM, EU, development partners, CSOs and media
4	Implement a zero-tolerance policy against racism and other forms of discrimination based on ethnicity, gender or religion	Member States ECOWAS Commission	A community based on equality of all people, races, cultures and religions	Continuous	UN, CSOs and media

Enhance early warning and operational intelligence cooperation

1	Develop and strengthen proactive and operational capabilities to anticipate, detect and disrupt terrorist activities	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Better and effective early preventive actions	Continuous	ACSRT, INTERPOL, CISSA, SARPCCO, EARPCCO, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs, media
2	Expand the mandate of the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN) to include terrorism indicators	Member States ECOWARN	ECOWARN acts effectively to provide early warning on terrorism	Immediate	ACSRT, CTED, EU
3	Enhance operational coordination with intelligence services (including the Committee for Coordination of Security Services (CCSS), police and military services) at both national and regional levels. The West African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (WAPCCO) shall serve as a central body for the coordination of information and activities of police and law enforcement agencies working on counter-terrorism issues, particularly those involved in the collection of information, investigation of and first response to criminal acts	CCSS, WAPCCO	Effective and timely intelligence on terrorist activities, their networks, movements, members and leaders	Immediate	CISSA
4	Regularise the sharing of information among Member States, at both regional and international levels	ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Timely information and coordination	Continuous	CISSA
5	Develop a West African database on terrorist activities, including terrorist groups, networks, leaders, headquarters, movement, training camps, means and sources of funding, means of acquisition of arms and explosives, and recruitment, communication and propaganda methods	ECOWAS Commission	An operational and functional database on terrorist activities, networks, members and leaders	Within six months	CTED, ACSRT, UNODC



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
6	Coordinate with INTERPOL and the AU Committee of Intelligence and Security Services in Africa (CISSA) and other regional and international mechanisms with a view to receive, share and disseminate relevant information	CCSS Member States	Effective regional and international coordination	Continuous	CISSA, INTERPOL
7	Coordinate and share information with other regional mechanisms such as SADC and IGAD	WAPCCO Member States	Regular and effective inter-regional cooperation	Continuous	EUROPOL, EAPCCO, SARPCCO, CARPCCO

Deny terrorists the means, space and technical capacity to carry out operations

1	Suppress the financing of terrorism by freezing all terrorist funds and assets, and enforce strict regulations on financial and non-financial institutions, including money transfers, to ensure that such transactions and funds do not support terrorism, whether directly or indirectly	Member States ECOWAS Commission GIABA	Reduction in terrorist activities due to lack of funds and resources	Urgent	FATF, IMF, World Bank, AfDB
2	Ratify and/or accede to and fully implement the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and all relevant UN resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001). To this end, enact appropriate legislation criminalising the financing of terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All 15 Member States belong to global regimes on the suppression of terrorist financing, and have in place appropriate legislation	Urgent	CTED, FATF, UNODC
3	Strengthen financial intelligence surveillance to detect illegal transactions that may be directed at terrorist funding	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective financial intelligence on terrorist financing	Urgent	FATF
4	Scrupulously implement all relevant instruments and decisions adopted by ECOWAS policy organs, including the existing AU, UN and international legal instruments on the prevention and combating of the illicit manufacture and development, acquisition or possession, proliferation, circulation, transfer, accumulation or stockpiling and use of small arms and light weapons and weapons of mass destruction, including biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological weapons	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Programme of Action on Small Arms	Deprive terrorists of means and access to weapons and explosives	Within the 1st year of implement- ation	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, BWC Panel, UNPoA, 1540 Committee, AU
5	Strictly prohibit and criminalise under national law with severe penalties offences related to the possession of and trade in arms and explosive materials in order to deny terrorists access to such weapons	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States have penal legislation	Within the 1st year of implement- ation	UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, BWC Panel, 1540 Committee



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
6	Deny terrorists access to explosive materials, including commercial explosives such as TNT and dynamite, by enforcing stringent regulations and international standards, including requirements for inventory, marking of explosives and end-user reporting in order to prevent the illicit transfer and misuse of explosive materials	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States have effective and enforceable regulations	Within the 1st year of implementation	UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, 1540 Committee, BWC Panel
7	Adopt and enforce stringent regulations on the control of the transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons. Such measures should include compulsory identification and declaration at various levels of transfer and end user. Of particular importance is the need for states to regulate and monitor the production, stockpiling, possession and acquisition of and access to weapons and explosives, particularly their transfer to non-state end users. States should enforce stringent control measures such as inventory, licensing of dealers, record-keeping of sales and purchases, and a ban on all transfers of MANPADS	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Programme on Small Arms	All Member States adhere to the same control standards	Continuous	UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, 1540 Committee, BWC Panel
8	Cooperate with relevant regional and international institutions that provide expertise and technical assistance on such matters, such as the ECOWAS Programme on Small Arms, IAEA, UNODC, UNPoA, CTC, CTED, Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee, OPCW, the Biological BWC Panel and CTBO, and civil society and media organisations	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective regional and international cooperation	Continuous	AU, UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, 1540 Committee, BWC Panel, CSOs and media
9	Ensure maximum security and comply with international safety standards for nuclear energy installations, including the transfer of sensitive facilities, technology and material (such as uranium) that can be used for or in nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, and ensure that any enrichment facility or enrichment technology is designed or operated in accordance with internationally approved standards	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Secure and safe nuclear energy facilities	Continuous	IAEA, 1540 Committee, African Commission on Nuclear Energy
10	Enforce a strict ban on the unlawful possession, transfer and trade in uranium and other materials that may be diverted towards the production of explosives or their precursors	Member States ECOWAS Commission		Urgent	IAEA, 1540 Committee, African Commission on Nuclear Energy



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
11	Enhance border control, including joint surveillance and other common border security measures	Member States ECOWAS Commission		Urgent	AU, ICAO, IOM, IMO, UNODC
12	Develop the capacity to enforce cyber security, including the ability to detect, monitor and intercept terrorist activities through the use of the internet and other forms of wireless and electronic communication	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective and secure cyberspace	Urgent	ACSRT, CTED, UNICRI, UNODC
13	Prohibit and criminalise the use of territories, including air, land and maritime spaces, for planning, recruiting, financing and supporting the commission of terrorist acts against their people or against other states	Member States ECOWAS Commission	No safe havens for terrorists	Urgent	AU, UN, IOM, IMO, ICAO, development partners, UNODC, FATF

Prevent extremism and radicalisation

1	Develop measures to identify and counter the propaganda methods used by extremist sects to lure and recruit youths and other vulnerable groups into violent and radical ideologies	Member States ECOWAS Commission West African faith-based organisations	Deprive terrorists of support	Urgent	CGCTC, international faith-based organisations, CSOs and media
2	Work with religious and community leaders, scholars and relevant civil society groups to develop de-radicalisation and reintegration programmes and to promote mainstream religious teachings, interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogues and reconciliation. Such programmes should seek to address the conditions conducive to youth radicalisation, including unemployment, lack of participation and representation in political and economic processes, injustices, lack of education, social delinquencies, frustration and deprivation	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effectively address the root causes of terrorism	Continuous	CSOs and media
3	Faith-based institutions, including churches and mosques, should be encouraged to participate in government programmes and to take initiatives to prevent radical ideas and extremist elements that seem to empathise with terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective coordination with all stakeholders	Continuous	CSOs and media
4	Develop and, where necessary, enhance counter-terrorism curricula for schools and universities to promote awareness of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective and sustained education of the youth	Within the 1st year of implementation	CGCTC, CSOs, media, and academic and scholarly institutions



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
5	Develop and, where necessary, strengthen national laws to criminalise recruitment, propaganda, incitement and support for or the attempt or conspiracy to participate in violent radical ideologies, including hate crimes and the use of religion to commit violent acts leading to death, injury or damage to property	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to have comprehensive and robust anti-terrorism legislation and strengthened rule of law	Urgent	ACSRT, CTED, CTIF, UNODC, CSOs and media
6	Eliminate racism and other forms of discrimination	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to fully enforce national constitutions and other relevant legislation against racism and other forms of discrimination	Urgent	CSOs and media
7	Prevent occupation, colonialism and other forms of domination	Member States ECOWAS Commission	No Member States should forcefully occupy or support another state to forcefully occupy another country against international law	Urgent	AU, UN, EU, development partners

Promote democratic practices and the protection of human rights

1	Intensify democratic practices as enshrined in the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance Supplementary to the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, as well as other relevant international legal instruments to which Member States have acceded	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Good governance and sound democratic practices	Continuous	AU, UN, NEPAD, APRM, EU, development partners, CSOs and media
2	Promote broad-based participation and equitable representation in all government sectors, including economic, socio-political and cultural programmes and government institutions	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Good governance and sound democratic practices	Continuous	AU, UN, EU, development partners, CSOs and media
3	Promote transparency and accountability in all state programmes and institutions, as well as policies aimed at fully emancipating marginalised communities, including minorities	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Good governance and sound democratic practices	Continuous	AU, UN, CSOs and media



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
4	Ensure that human rights as enshrined in the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights and various UN conventions, including the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, are protected for every individual. To this end, Member States shall take every measure to ensure that actions taken to prevent and combat terrorism, including the legislative and operational activities of police and law enforcement officers, do not infringe on these rights, except under the emergency conditions allowed under national law	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Community Court	Respect for human rights	Continuous	AfCHPR, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, UN, European Court on Human Rights, CSOs and media
5	Prohibit torture in all its forms and manifestations and other degrading and inhumane treatment, including discrimination on racial, ethnic or gender basis against minorities and terrorist suspects	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Community Court	Respect for human rights	Urgent	AfCHPR, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and media
6	Ensure that detention, arrest, imprisonment or forced expulsion/deportation and other sanctions against terrorist suspects are conducted strictly within the framework of the law. To this end, all Member States shall ensure that the arrest, detention, forced expulsion, imprisonment or even targeted killing of terrorist suspects is conducted through due process of the law	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Community Court	Respect for human rights	Continuous	AfCHPR, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and media
7	Ensure that police and law enforcement officers are properly trained on counter-terrorism and human rights issues	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Effective capacity for law enforcement, including police	Urgent	INTERPOL, ISS
8	Take all necessary measures to discourage and stamp out corruption in both private and government sectors, particularly among police, law enforcement officers and other security and judicial officers, and set out severe penalties for those who violate anti-corruption laws	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	All Member States to adhere to the same standards against corruption	Continuous	AU, UN, UNODC, INTERPOL, Africa Prosecutors Association



Pillar 2: Pursue

NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
Sign, ratify and/or accede to and effectively implement regional, continental and international counter-terrorism legal instruments					
1	Become party to all the ECOWAS, AU, UN and other universal conventions and protocols against terrorism, as a matter of urgent priority (see annex for list of instruments)	Member States	All Member States are parties to all AU and UN (18 universal) instruments	Urgent	AU, UN, UNODC, CTED
2	Take all necessary legislative, executive and judicial measures to fully domesticate and enforce the provisions of the above-mentioned instruments	Member States supported by the Commission	All Member States have national anti-terrorism legislation, which is fully enforced	Urgent	CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and media
3	Establish at the level of the Commission a Counter-Terrorism Technical Assistance Directory to enable states in need to find and receive technical assistance	ECOWAS Commission	A functional and effective directory	Within three months of implementation	CTED, ACSRT, CGCTC
4	Monitor effective implementation by maintaining an updated list of Member States' compliance with all regional, continental and international legal instruments	ECOWAS Commission	Effective implementation of the Strategy	Within three months of implementation	ACSRT, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs and media
Enhance the rule of law and cooperation on criminal justice matters					
1	Strengthen the legal framework and codification regimes	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to regularly update their legislation	Urgent	AU, UN, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and media
2	Make terrorism the most serious criminal offence punishable by the severest penalties allowed by national law	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States prescribe the same sanctions and penalties for terrorist offences to prevent safe havens	Urgent	ACSRT, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and media



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
3	Make it a top priority for all Member States to enact and, where necessary, strengthen national legislation to criminalise and provide offences covering all key areas of the phenomenon of terrorism as provided for in the AU Comprehensive African Antiterrorism Model Law, 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and its Protocol thereto, as well as the 14 universal conventions and four additional protocols against terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States criminalise terrorism as a serious crime under national law	Urgent	ACSRT, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs and media
4	Extend to one another all measures of cooperation and assistance on criminal matters, including the investigation and prosecution of terrorist acts. Such cooperation, whether at the international or regional level, shall both formally and informally be to enable flexibility and efficiency of national judicial systems to be able to pursue terrorists everywhere within the region and to handle complex counter-terrorism cases, including issues related to the forensic, technological and financial aspects of the investigation and prosecution of terrorist crimes	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective mutual legal assistance and cooperation	Continuous	UNODC, CTED, ACSRT, ISS, CGCTC
5	Cooperate on matters relating to extradition as provided for in the ECOWAS Convention on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance in order to enhance cooperation on criminal matters, and to be able to bring terrorists to justice. To this end establish and recognise the legality of an ECOWAS Arrest Warrant (ECOWARRANT), an ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Coordination Bureau (ECOCTB) and an ECOWAS Black List of Terrorists and Criminal Networks (ECOTLIST). The ECOWAS Warrant shall also enable Member States to cooperate in giving and obtaining evidence in other Member States.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective cooperation on extradition matters	Continuous	UNODC, CTED, ACSRT, ISS, CGCTC

Improve cooperation on border control and surveillance, including aviation and maritime security

1	Establish common border patrol mechanisms, which shall also conduct regular assessments of threats to and vulnerabilities of borders	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective border control and surveillance	Urgent	INTERPOL, AU, ACSRT, UNODC, IMO, ICAO,
2	Strengthen measures to detect forged and falsified documents and to report and share such information with relevant Member States	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Effective border control	Urgent	INTERPOL, AU, ACSRT, UNODC, IMO, ICAO, WCO



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
3	Report all suspicious passports and identification documents, including goods and services not in compliance with the ECOWAS protocols and regulations on inter-state road transit of goods and inter-state road transportation between Member States	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective border control	Continuous	INTERPOL
4	Scrupulously enforce provisions of relevant international conventions and protocols on the safety of civil aviation, law of the sea, maritime navigation and fixed platforms on the continental shelf	Member State ECOWAS Commission	All Member States take measures to prevent hijacking and violence aboard an aircraft or a sea vessel	Continuous	ICAO, IMO, IOM
5	Enact and where necessary strengthen national legislation and criminal justice regimes against piracy and other criminal activities in the high seas to ensure that perpetrators of such acts are effectively investigated, prosecuted and deterred	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Member States have in place effective criminal laws and capacity to investigate and prosecute piracy	Urgent	ICAO, IMO, IOM, AU
6	Ensure that all vessels sailing on or using states' maritime spaces are registered with long-range identification and tracking systems, and that commercial users are properly registered and licensed	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Member States have in place effective tracking and control mechanisms to identify, intercept and disrupt criminal networks	Within the first year of implementation of this Strategy	IOM, IMO
7	Strengthen cooperation and coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Customs Organization (WCO), International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the UNODC to put in place specific regulations for the inspection of cargo originating, exiting, transiting or being trans-shipped through a state; for the promotion of customs-to-customs cooperation on the in-bound and out-bound security inspection; and the use of standardised targeting and screening criteria to detect and prevent drug, arms and human trafficking within the framework of relevant regional, continental and international instruments	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective cooperation on specialised border control activities	Continuous	ICAO, WCO, IMO, UNODC, IOM

Suppress and criminalise the financing of terrorism and associated money laundering

1	Take all necessary measures to suppress and prevent the unlawful and wilful provision or collection of funds for the commission of a terrorist act	Member States ECOWAS Commission GIABA	All Member States take executive, legislative and judicial measures to suppress terrorist financing	Continuous	FATF, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs
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NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
2	Enforce the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the relevant provisions of Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) and other international instruments relating to money laundering and counterfeiting	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to become parties to the Convention and have measures in place to effectively implement both it and all relevant UN resolutions	Continuous	FATF, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and media
3	Enact legislation criminalising the financing of terrorism and money laundering, including their incitement, abetment, support, solicitation and other wilful activities that facilitate terrorists' acquisition of funds directly or indirectly. Legislation should include appropriate penalties for those who commit offences articulated under the law	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to have legislation	Urgent	FATF, CTED, UNODC
4	Freeze without delay funds and other financial assets and/or economic activities and resources of persons who commit, or attempt to commit terrorist acts or participate in or facilitate the commission of terrorist acts, of entities or organisations controlled directly or indirectly by such persons, including funds and assets derived or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such persons and their associates	Member States ECOWAS Commission GIABA	Effective cooperation on freezing of terrorist funds and assets	Urgent	FATF, CAERT, CTED, UNODC
5	Ensure that central banks and commercial banks and other financial institutions, including both formal and informal institutions, take stringent measures to ascertain the identities of their clients, and report irregular activities and irregular financial transaction patterns	Member States ECOWAS Commission BCEAO GIABA	Increased role of financial institutions	Continuous	FATF, CTED, UNODC
6	Refrain and prohibit their nationals from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities, persons or organisations involved in terrorist and other criminal and clandestine acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups or the payment of ransom to such criminal groups	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Suppress other means of support for terrorists	Continuous	ACSRT, CTED, UNODC, CTITF, CGCTC
7	Establish Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) to liaise with GIABA (Intergovernmental Group Against Money Laundering) in receiving, analysing and disseminating reports on suspicious transactions/activities and other relevant information regarding suspected	Member States GIABA	Enhanced intelligence and coordination on detecting terrorist transactions	Urgent	FATF, CTED, UNODC, ISS



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
	money laundering and terrorist financing, including regular risk or threat assessments and recommendations for combating terrorist financing and money laundering both within individual Member States and at the regional level				
8	Strengthen regulations for money value transfer and make registration, licensing and reporting compulsory for all money transfer services. Such regulations should include limitations on sending or accepting cash payments (the limit shall be consistent with the limit set by GIABA), the duty to report international transfer of funds and securities, and detailed identification documents, including resident addresses, for sender and recipient. Casinos and other lottery services shall verify, document and report detailed identification of their customers paying or receiving cash more than the limit set by GIABA	Member States GIABA	All Member States to adhere to the same standards	Urgent	FATF
9	Harmonise among states all financial regulations, including those relating to wire transfers and remittances, and formal and informal activities of non-profit or charity groups/organisations as well as those of cash couriers, to ensure that they are not exploited by terrorist and other criminal groups	Member States GIABA	All Member States to adhere to the same standards	Continuous	FATF
Protect critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests					
1	Identify and increase security at critical infrastructures and soft targets, including airports, seaports, major roads, historical and cultural infrastructure, government offices, markets and shopping malls, stadiums, stock exchanges, social theatres, and foreign diplomatic premises and installations (including companies, organisations, vessels, cars and couriers)	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Enhanced protection of major infrastructures and governmental institutions	Continuous	ACSRT, ISS
2	Criminalise acts that target critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests in the territories of Member States, and provide for severe penalties for offenders	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective protection	Urgent	ACSRT, UNODC, ISS
3	WAPCCO, together with INTERPOL, shall issue periodic alert notices, based on well-informed intelligence, to public bodies, international organisations, diplomatic	WAPCCO CCSS	Effective use of intelligence	Urgent	INTERPOL



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
	representations and other agencies about any possible threats from terrorism, particularly in relation to hidden weapons, parcel bombs and other dangerous materials				
4	Regularly train personnel on the protection of critical infrastructures and to build a readiness capacity to respond rapidly to a terrorist attack, including performing technical operations such as disarming or deactivating explosives, cordoning off the crime area, dealing with victims and collecting materials for forensic evidence	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity for protection of critical infrastructure	Continuous	INTERPOL, ISS, ACSRT

Enhance the ability of Member States to develop a criminal justice response to terrorism

1	Develop dedicated units of prosecutors in Member States who can be called upon to prosecute terrorism-related cases	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity for prosecutors	Urgent	African Prosecutors Association, UNODC, ISS, ACSRT
2	Assist Member States to establish specialised units within law enforcement agencies and the Gendarmerie (assisted by the military where necessary) to investigate terrorism-related offences, hostage negotiations and bomb disposal	ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity and coordination of law enforcement agencies	Urgent	ACSRT, UNODC, CTED, CGCTC, ISS
3	Develop specialised training courses	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity for counter-terrorism	Urgent	ACSRT, UNODC, ISS, CGCTC

Strengthen cooperation with civil society and media organisations on the prevention and combating of terrorism

1	Develop a strategy on how to engage and work with the media so it can play a more productive role in reporting terrorist incidents in a manner that focuses on the victims and the criminal nature of the attacks. In other words, eliminate sympathy for or empathy with the terrorists and focus more on the plight of victims and how and where they may obtain assistance	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Better coordination on communication with CSOs and media	Within the first year of implementation	CSOs and media
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NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
2	Provide regular information to the media on the government's counter-terrorism strategy	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Enhanced coordination with media	Continuous	CSOs and media
Training and capacity-building on the prevention and combating of terrorism					
1	Allocate substantial resources, including personnel, materials and equipment, for the prevention and combating of terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Member States have in place the resource capacity to prevent and combat terrorism	Urgent	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, development partners, etc.
2	Put in place within the Commission, an ECOWAS capacity-building programme against terrorism in order to effectively coordinate, harmonise and implement counter-terrorism training programmes for both civilian and military personnel	Member States ECOWAS Commission	A permanent mechanism for capacity-building and coordination of training and skills development on counter-terrorism matters is in place	Immediate	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, development partners, etc.
3	Develop specialised training courses on counter-terrorism matters, including intelligence gathering and sharing, investigation, prosecution and extradition, and international cooperation. To this end, an ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Training Manual shall incorporate special modules for criminal justice officials	Member States ECOWAS Commission	A permanent and up-to-date counter-terrorism curriculum for training and the standardisation of counter-terrorism skills in the ECOWAS region is in place	Urgent	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, KAIPTC, development partners, etc.
4	Regularly train officials to develop and strengthen operational skills to undertake technical counter-terrorism operations, including the capability to perform forensic analysis, preparation of statutory reports, drafting and processing of mutual legal assistance (MLA) and extradition requests	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to have functional expertise for highly technical counter-terrorism skills	Continuous	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, KAIPTC, development partners, etc.



Pillar 3: Reconstruct

NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
Protect the rights of victims					
1	Promote the rights of victims of terrorism, including those affected directly and indirectly by the rippling effect of terrorism, and ensure that their concerns are addressed	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Court of Justice (Community Court)	All Member States to have a framework for dealing with victims of terrorism	Continuous	ICRC, Red Cross, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, African Commission on Human and People's Rights
2	Funds seized or recovered from terrorists should be distributed to the victims or their families	Member States Community Court	Effective use of terrorists' funds and assets	Continuous	African Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and media
3	Provide other forms of assistance to victims, including medical care and reintegration into normal social life	Member States Community Court	Effective care for victims of terrorism	Continuous	African Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and media
Support and reconcile communities, promote state and social cohesion					
1	Take measures aimed at reconciling communities, particularly in the aftermath of a terrorist incident, by promoting dialogue and emphasising the individuality of terrorists	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective management of trauma and shock	Continuous	CSOs and media
2	Avoid measures that seem to profile or target specific groups or communities	Member States ECOWAS	Focus on the individuality of terrorists rather than on their racial, ethnic or religious background	Continuous	CSOs and media



NO.	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
Repair social contract					
1	Take immediate actions in the aftermath of a terrorist attack to reassure the people that the government is in control of the situation. People should be kept well informed about measures being taken, including investigation and prosecution of suspects	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Continued trust in government	Continuous	CSOs and media
2	Introduce and develop community development projects to rebuild damaged infrastructure and social networks	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Continued trust in government	Continuous	Development partners, CSOs and media
Develop national counter-terrorism strategies					
1	Develop a national counter-terrorism strategy that addresses the various dimensions of the threat of terrorism, including an approach to counter terrorists' propaganda, recruitment, sources of funding and radicalisation. Such strategies should draw from and aim at giving practical effect to the full implementation of this (ECOWAS) Strategy and other applicable instruments	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Enhanced and result-oriented national counter-terrorism programmes	Urgent	CTITF, CTED, ISS, CSOs and media, development partners, etc.
2	Ensure that all relevant national stakeholders are involved in the development and implementation of the strategy	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective national coordination	Continuous	CSOs and media
3	Promote national awareness to strengthen support for and implementation of the strategy	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Broad national support for national strategies	Continuous	CSOs and media