ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

FINAL REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Council of Ministers held its twenty-second session from 26 to 28 November 1987 in Lagos, Federal Republic of Rigeria.
 - 2. The following Member States were represented:
 - Paople's Republic of Benin
 - Burkina Faso
 - Republic of Cape Verde
 - Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
 - Republic of Tas Gambia
 - Republic of Ghane
 - Republic of Guinea
 - Republic of Mali
 - Islamic Republic of Mauritania
 - Republic of Niger
 - Federal Republic of Nigeria
 - Republic of Senegal
 - Republic of Sierra Leone
 - Republic of Togo

Representatives of the following Regional Organisations also attended this Session as observers:

- Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Multinational Programme and Operational Centre for West Africa (MULPOC-NIAMEY)
- African Groundnut Council (AGC)
- Panafrican Information Agency (PANA)
- West African Development Bank (BOAD)

The list of participants is attached as an appendix to this Report.

3. The Council of Ministers observed one minute's silence in memory of the illustrious Heads of State of the sub-region who died recently.

II. OPENING SESSION

- 4. The session was officially opened by the Chairman of Council, His Excellency Dr. Kalu I. Kalu, Honourable Minister of Planning of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. On behalf of His Excellency General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and of the Government and People of Nigeria, the Honourable Minister welcomed his distinguished colleagues and ther delegates.
- 5. In his opening speech as current Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Dr. Kalu I. Kalu declared that this session of Council was a budget session. He then reported on the activities of the Community since the last session of Council in July 1987 in Abuja, particularly the implementation of the second phase of the Protocol on the free movement of persons, goods and services, the Protocol on trade liberalisation and the payment of contributions to the budgets of Institutions of the Community. He also reported to Council on the two missions led by him on behalf of the Community to certain Member States and to Washington during the joint annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.
- 6. During these missions, the Chairman of Council noted the satisfactory progress made in the construction of the Headquarters of the Fund in Lome and expressed his pleasure at the readiness of the African Development Bank, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to increase their assistance to subregional organisations such as ECOWAS to enable them to implement their economic programmes.

finally, the Chairman drew the attention of Council to the need to strengthen the existing cooperation links between Member States to ensure a better future for the peoples of the sub-region. (The speech of the Honourable Minister is attached as an appendix to this Report.)

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- 7. The agenda presented by the Executive Secretariat was amended and adopted as follows:
 - 1º Opening Ceremony
 - i) Opening Address by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers
 - ii) Election of Bureau
 - iii) Adoption of the Agenda
 - 2° Report of the Executive Secretary
 - 3º Report of the Finance Experts
 - 4° Reports of the Technical Commissions
 - i) Transport, Communications and Energy Commission
 - ii) Industry, Agriculture and Natural Resources Commission
 - iii) Trade, Customs, Immigration, Money and payments Commission
 - 5° Report of the Establishment Committee
 - 6° Report of the Joint Meeting of Member States and West African Inter-governmental Organisations on Rationalisation of West African Integration efforts
 - 7º Report of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee for the Construction of the Headquarters of Community Institutions
 - 8º Report of the Board of Directors of ECOWAS Fund
 - 9° Any other business
- IV. ELECTION OF BUREAU
 - 8. The following bureau was elected:

Chairman:

Federal Republic of Nigeria

Rapporteurs:

Burkinn Fast

Republic of The Gambia

V. OUTCOME OF DELIBERATIONS

Item 2: Executive Secretary's Report

- 9. The Executive Secretary presented his Report of activities from July to September 1987, which mainly highlighted:
 - i) Activities of the Community since the July 1987 meetings
 - ii) 1988 Work Programme of the Community.
 - 10. After some discussion, Council commended the Executive Secretary on the quality of his Report and took note the document.
 - 11. Council directed that in future the Executive Secretary should update his Report in accordance with the latest developments in world economy. The most recent development was the stock market crash which hit the international finance market.
 - 12. With regard to missions undertaken by members of staff of the Institutions in Member States, Council directed that in future, such mission be announced before any member of staff travels.
 - 13. Council urged the Executive Secretary to take all necessary steps for the recovery of arrears of contribution to the budgets of the Institutions. Council once again appealed to all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations.

Item 3: Report of Finance Experts

- 14. Council adopted the Report presented by the Finance Experts, and the resultant recommendations, which were amended as follows:
- 15. Per diem rates for ECOWAS staff are to be fixed according to geographical zones. Council therefore decided that the rates be as follows for the following geographical zones:

	AFRICA, ASIA LATIN AMERICA	EUROPE	USA, CANADA JAPAN
Ministers	\$180	\$230	\$250
Executive Secretary & Managing Director	\$180	\$210	\$220
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Professional Staff:

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i)	Directors	\$134.40	\$190	\$200
ii)	Other Senior staff	\$112.50	\$170	\$190
*w	Consultants/Experts	\$112.50	\$170	\$190
- Jaka	General Service staff	397.50	\$1 30	\$150
	Auxiliary staff	475	£100	\$120

- 16. In the specific case of payment of refunds claimed for partial incapacity, the Executive Secretariat was requested to implement the provisions of Decision C/DEC.10/11/77 Article 8b of the Council of Ministers on an Accident and Health Insurance Policy for ECOWAS Staff.
- 17. With regard to the issue of bank reconciliation raised in the External Auditor's Report, Council requested that the Institutions collaborate with ECOWAS units in Guinea and Sierra Leone, and approach BNSE Guinea and the Bank of Sierra Leone, with a view to recovering the amounts in question.
- 18. On staff expenditure to be included in the budget of the Executive Secretarist, Council approved the recruitment of a Head of Division for Tourism, in addition to that of Head of Section for staff matters, which was proposed by the Committee of Finance Experts.
- 19. Following the creation of this new post, the budget of the Executive Secretarist was amended to include it. The budget of the Secretarist therefore balances out at 5.939,174 U.A.
- 20. The Executive Secretariat has been requested to schedule meetings of the Committee of Finance Experts after the meetings of Technical Commissions, in the future, to permit an assessment of the financial impact of Community programmes.

Item 4: Reports of Technical Commissions

- i) Transport, Communications and Energy Commission:
- 21. The Report of the Transport, Communications and Energy Commission focused on the sixth (6th) Joint ECOWAS/PANAFTEL meeting.

Council adopted the Report and the recommendations emanating from it subject to the following observations:

- 22. With regards to the recommendation on the mechanism for the follow up of decisions, the Executive Secretariat was requested to rationalise the number of Committees responsible for the following up Community programmes: The monitoring Committee referred to in the first sub-paragraph of the recommendation was therefore considered unnecessary.
- 23. Regarding the recommendation on the take-over by ECOWAS of the Mano River Union Telecommunications Institute, Council requested the authorities of this Organisation to prepare a more comprehensive document stating the legal and financial implications of such a take-over by ECOWAS.

ii) Industry, Agriculture and Natural Resources Commission:

- 24. The Report was presented by the Commission, and the recommendations contained therein were adopted subject to the following observations:
- 25. Council noted the recommendation on the creation of a Special Agricultural Development Fund.
- 26. Regarding the subvention of 16,000 U.A. to be granted to the West African Representation to the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Executive Secretariat was directed to sign a framework cooperation agreement with the Consultative Group Representation before such a grant could be made.

iii) Trade, Customs, Immigration, Money and Payments Commission

- 27. The Report of the 19th session of this Commission was presented by the Chairman and adopted by Council with the proposals contained therein.
- 28. With regard to the review of the formula for payment of contribution to the Community budget by Member States, however, Council directed the Executive Secretariat to take all

necessary steps to present new proposals based on the provisions of Article 2 of the Protocol relating to Contribution of Member States to the Community Budget, at its next session in June 1988.

- 29. Council also directed the Executive Secretariat to submit its findings to the Committee of Finance Experts after consideration of those findings by the Trade, Customs, Immigration, Nancy and Payments Commission.
- 30. Payment of contributions to the budget of the Executive Secretariat and the capital of the Fund for the 1988 financial year is to be in the basis of the current contribution assessment formula applicable in the Community.
- 21. Regarding the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee for the estimation of the Compensation Budget for loss of revenue suffered as a result of the implementation of the Intra-Community trade liberalisation scheme, Council requested the membership of Ad Hoc Committees be changed periodically, to avoid a situation in which the same States would always be included in the same bodies.

Item 5: Report of the Establishments Committee:

pointed out by the Establishments Committee in the proposals submitted by the Executive Secretariat, particularly with regard to the correction of anomalies and irregularities in the grading of staff. The Executive Secretariat was requested to prepare a fresh document which would reflect the observations made by the Establishments Committee.

Item 6: Report of the Joint Meeting of ECOWAS Member States and Intergovernmental Organisations on Rationalisation of Integration Efforts in West Africa.

- 33. The Report was adopted by Council after its presentation, and after some amendments had been made to the recommendations contained in it. Council therefore recommended to the Authority of Heads of State and Government:
 - i) to request the decision-making body of each IGO to reaffirm its commitment to a single economic Community in West Africa.

- ii) to take into account the existence of IGOs in the sub-region when working out the political framework for the new Community structure;
- iii) to commission additional studies with a view to achieving the effective rationalisation of integration efforts in West Africa.
 - Item 7: Report of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee for the construction of the Headquarters of Community Institutions:
- 34. The Report and the relevant recommendations on the award of a Contract to the Quantity Surveyor required for the Construction of the Headquarters of the Executive Secretariat were adopted by Council. Council thus approved the appointment of Messrs G. A. TAKYI and partners as Quantity Surveyors for the construction project at Abuja at a fixed firm lump sum of 31.789,289 FCFA.

Item 8: Report of the Board of Directors

- 35. The Council of Ministers adopted the Report of the Board of Directors and the recommendations contained therein.
- 36. With regard to the post of Chief of Cabinet referred to in the Report, it is understood that the term of office of this officer shall be tied to that of the Managing Director of the Fund.

Item 9: Any Other Business

37. Council expressed its concern over the contravention by certain Member States of the provisions of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment. it was observed that citizens of the Community are still being asked to pay Visa fees and subjected to administrative harassment at the border posts of certain Member States where they are obliged to change a minimum amount into local currency. Council condemned this situation and appealed to all Member States to implement all the provisions of Phase I and II of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons.

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	38. The Executive Secretariat was directed to prepare a Report on all forms of contravention of the Protocol on Free Movement to be submitted to the appropriate Commission.
	39. Council noted the lack of reaction on the part of the Statutory Appointees to its decision of July 1987 on the formulation of proposals for the evaluation of the performance of Statutory Appointees.
	VI. ADOPTION OF REPORT 40. This Report was adopted after amendment.
	VII. CLOSING SESSION
	In his closing speech, the Chairman of Council expressed his satisfaction on the cordial working atmosphere which had prevailed throughout the deliberations. He also expressed the hope that tangible progress would be recorded within the Community.
	DR KALU I. KALU CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (E. C. O. W. A. S)

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

DECISION C/DEC.1/11/87 ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT FOR THE 1988 FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the provisions of Article 53 of the Treaty on the budget of the Community;

HAVING CONSIDERED the draft budget proposed by the Committee of Finance Experts for the 1988 Financial Year;

D E C I D E S

Article 1

The budget of the Executive Secretariat for 1988 is balanced out at the sum of five million, nine hundred and eighty-nine thousand, one nundred and seventy-four **Un**its of **A**ccount (5 989 174 U.A)

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987

DR. KALU I. KALU Chairman

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (E. C. O. W. A. S)

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

DECISION C/DEC.2/11/87 APPROVING THE ACCOUNTS OF THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 1986 BUDGET YEAR.

The Council of Ministers,

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the Recommendations of the Committee of Finance Experts on approval of the accounts and financial statements of the Community Institutions for the 1986 budget year;

D E C I D E S

Article 1

The accounts of the Community Institutions (the Executive Secretariat and the Fund) and their consolidated accounts for the 1986 budget year, are hereby approved.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987

DR. KALU I. KALU

Chairman

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

DECISION C/DEC.3/11/87 ON THE ADOPTION OF PER DIEM RATES APPLICABLE WITHIN INSTITUTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS;

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONSIDERING the need to classify per diem rates applicable within Institutions of the Community into geographical zones;

D E C I D E S

Article 1: With effect from 1 January 1988, per diem rates applicable within Institutions of the Community shall be classified into geographical zones as follows:

	AFRICA/ASIA LATIN AMERICA	EUROPE	USA, CANADA, JAPAN
Ministers Executive Secretary	\$180	\$230	\$250
& Director-General	\$180	\$210	\$220
Other Statutory Appointees	\$134.40	\$200	\$210
Professional Staff i) Directors ii) Others	\$134.40 \$112.50	\$190 \$170	\$200 \$190
Consultants & Experts	\$112.50	\$170	\$190
General Services Staff	\$97.50	\$130	\$150
Auxiliary Service Staff	\$75	\$100	\$120

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ר'ו		Article 2: This Decision shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each
		Member State.
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L		DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987
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		DR. KALU I. KALU CHAIRMAN
		FOR THE COUNCIL
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ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

22ND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

DECISION C/DEC.4/11/87 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RELATING TO THE AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES 8 AND 9 OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN ECOWAS MEMBER STATES.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of article 6 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the Decision No. A/DEC/21/5/80 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government taken in Lome on 28th May 1980 on the creation of the Special Fund for Telecommunications;

MINDFUL of Decision C/DEC/2/5/81 relating to the Rules and Regulations of the Special Fund for Development of Telecommunications in ECOWAS Member States;

MINDFUL of Article 39 of the Rules and Regulations of the Special Fund for the Development of Telecommunications in ECOWAS Member States relating to the revision and amendment of the Rules and Regulations;

ON the recommendation of the Transport, Communications and Energy Commission;

	.
ARTICLE 1:	A fourth (4th) paragraph is hereby added to the provisions of Article 8 of the Rules and Regulations of the Special Fund for the Development of Telecommunications in ECOWAS Member States which reads as follows: "to cover the expenditure of the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat in respect of the management of telecommunications projects."
ARTICLE 2:	Article 9 paragraph 3 of the Rules and Regulations of the Special Fund for the Development of Telecommunications in ECOWAS Member States is hereby amended and reads as follows:
	"The amount of guarantee for any borrowing shall not be more than 20% of the total guarantee potential of the Special Fund for Telecommunications."
ARTICLE 3:	The Decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.
	DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987.
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DR. KALU I. KALU
THE CHAIRMAN
FOR THE COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES
22ND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987
DECISION C/DEC.5/11/87 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON THE ADOPTION OF A REVISED ECOWAS TELEPHONE TARIFF RATES SYSTEM
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
MINDFUL of Article 6 of the Treaty of the Economic
Community of West African States (ECOWAS) establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions,
MINDFUL of Decision No. A/DEC.12/5/79 of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government taken in Dakar on 29 May 1979 on the programme for the improvement and extension of Telecommunications
networks within the Community,
MINDFUL of Decision C/DEC.9/11/79 of the Council of Ministers on the Telecommunications programme
ON the Recommendation of the Transport, Communications and Energy Commission,
D E C I D E S
ARTICLE 1: The revised ECOWAS telephone tariff rates proposed by ECOWAS and attached herewith is adopted
and shall serve as a reference frame in bilateral negotiations between Telecommunications Administrations.
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Λυπτ	CLE 2: Telecommunications Administrations are requested
AKII	to retain 8 Gold Francs as the tax ceiling which
	shall not be exceeded in relations between them.
ARTI	CLE 3: This decision shall take effect upon signature
	and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and the National Gazette of each Member
	State.
	DONE AT LAGOS THIS 28 DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987
	La Carlo
	DR. KALU I. KALU
	CHAIRMAN FOR THE COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (E. C. O. W. A. S)

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

DECISION C/DEC.6/11/87 RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF THE SUB REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE CONTROL OF THE INVASION OF RIVERS AND LAGOONS BY FLOATING WEEDS.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the ECOWAS Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

UPON the Recommendation of the Industry, Agriculture and Natural Resources Commission;

D E C I D E S

Article 1

The adoption of a subregional programme for the control of the invasion of rivers and lagoons by floating weeds;

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987

DR. KALU I. KALU

Chairman

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES
(E. C. O. W. A. S)
TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987
DECISION C/DEC.7/11/87 ON THE AWARD OF A GRANT TO THE WEST AFRICAN REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (C.G.I.A.R.)
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;
CONSIDERING the need to coordinate agricultural research within the sub-region and to revamp agricultural production;
 ON THE Recommendation of the Industry, Agriculture and Natural Resources Commission;
D E C I D E S
Article 1
A grant of 16,000 UA (Sixteen thousand UA) shall be allocated to the West African Representation within the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (C.G.I.A.R.)
Article 2
The distribution of the above-mentioned grant shall be subject to the signing of a Cooperation Agreement between ECOWAS and the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (C.G.I.A.R.)

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	Article 3
	This Decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community
	and the National Gazette of each Member State.
	DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987
	JOHN Commencer
	DR. KALU I. KALU CHAIRMAN
	FOR THE COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES
22ND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987
DECISION C/DEC.8/11/87 ON THE SELECTION OF THE QUANTITY SURVEYOR FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS ON THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT IN ABUJA (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA).
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;
MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.17/5/82 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government on the construction of the Headquarters of Community Institutions;
CONSIDERING the reports of the meetings of Experts of the Ministerial Committee, and of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee, on the construction of Headquarters of
Community Institutions, held in Lagos from 13 to 17 October and 26 November respectively,
D E C I D E S
ARTICLE-1: The firm of G.A. TAKYI & PARTNERS (GHANA) has been selected as the Quantity Surveyor to supervise
construction works on the Headquarters of the Executive Secretariat in Abuja (Federal Republic of

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Nigeria).

ARTICLE 2: The cost of all tasks assigned to G.A. TAKYI as part of the construction of the Headquarters of the Executive Secretariat, shall not exceed 0.60% of the total tax-free cost of works implemented including internal and external fittings and excluding interior decoration.

ARTICLE 3: This decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT LAGOS THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987

DR. KALU I. KALU
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE COUNCIL

ECONOMIC	COMMUNITY	OF	WEST	AFRICAN	STATES
	(E. C.	Ο.	W. A.	S)	

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

VOTE OF THANKS

The ECOWAS Council of Ministers holding its Twenty-Second Session in the National Assembly Complex in Lagos, Federal Republic of Nigeria, from 26 to 28 November 1987, expresses its profound gratitude to the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA, the Federal Military Government and the People of Nigeria for the warm welcome accorded Council members during their stay in Lagos.

Council also expresses its gratitude to the Nigerian Authorities for the facilities placed at its disposal to ensure the success of its Twenty-Second Session.

DONE AT LAGOS, THIS 22ND DAY OF NOVEMBER 1987

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

OPENING SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF
NATIONAL PLANNING AND CHAIRMAN, ECOWAS COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS, DR. KALU I. KALU AT THE 22ND
SESSION OF THE ECOWAS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
HELD IN LACOS FROM 26TH TO 28TH NOVEMBER, 1987

Honourable Ministers

The Executive Secretary of ECOWAS:

The Managing Director of the ECOWAS Fund,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Migeria and Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, the Government and people of Migeria, it is my privilege and honour to welcome you once more to Migeria. As you may recall, it was only a few months ago that we last met in Abuja. However, as you will all agree, there have been some significant developments within the Community to make this November Session of Council something smore than the consideration and approval of the 1988 budgets of the institutions of our Community.

Honourable Ministers:

Secretary amply indicate the areas where there have been perceptible developments during the intervening months in the Community Cooperation Programmes. Council is now being called upon to consider the various proposals emanating from appropriate organs in respect of these significant developments. I shall leave the task of presentation of these proposals to Council to the Executive Secretary and the Chairmen of the different Technical Commissions. However, permit me to stress that as this session is essentially a budget session, you will devote a great part of your time to examine in detail, the 1988 budget proposals of the Executive Secretariat as well as the report of the Board of Directors of the ECOWAS Fund which will be presented to you by by our colleague, the Bonourable Chairman of the Board.

Headquarters in Abuja. Also, during my stay in Lome, I urged the personnel of the Fund to put in their best in the performance of their duties since the decision-making bodies of the Community are disposed towards improving their working conditions.

After holding fruitful discussions in Lome, Togo, we left for Abidjan where I was met by Honourable Abdloulaye KONE, the Ivorian Minister for Finance and Economy. Apart from a working Session with the Honourable Minister, I also held talks with his Excellency Doubacar N°DIAYE, President of the African Development Bank and Mr. Jean-David ROULET, the World Bank Resident Representative in Cote d'Ivoire.

Dear Colleagues,

My discussions with the ADD President and the World Dank representative confirmed the willingness of these and other international financial institutions to increase their assistance to sub-regional organisations in developing countries such as ECOWAS to implement their economic programmes. The institutions of the Community were therefore urged to seek to strengthen working relations with the donour agencies. Our collective efforts to re-structure the West African economy were commended by both the ADB and world Bank. I was specifically assured that the World Bank is favourably disposed to assist ECOWAS in the implementation of the West African Economic Recovery Programme. In a similar vein, the ADB indicated its preparedness to grant the ECOWAS Fund, a substantial line of credit to enable the Community to execute its Investment Programme under the Economic Recovery Programme.

In Ghana, I was met on arrival by Honourable Kwesi
Amissah-Arthur, Under Secretary for Finance, I had useful
discussions with Honourable Dr. Kwesi BOTCHWEY, Secretary
for Finance, in which the Honourable Secretaries for Internal
Affairs, and Trade and Tourism also participated.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to my ministerial colleagues who so generously gave me their time and were excellent hosts during my tour. There was a useful exchange of views and experiences on the continuing national efforts to implement structural adjustment programmes in order launch our economies on the path of sustained

economic growth. We also dwelt at length on other problems facing the Community, some of which will be further considered during the present Session of Council. The point was strongly made that all Member States should make determined and concerted efforts to implement the decisions and policies of the Community.

Honourable Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates,

Throughout my visits, particular attention was paid during the discussions I had with my colleagues, to the need to implement the 2nd Phase of the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, thus ensuring in practice, the free movement of goods and persons across national borders. With respect to the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, I regret to report to Council that although we are supposed to be at the 2n1 Phase (Right of Residence), of the Protocol, one particular member State continues to oblige Community citizens to obtain entry visas and at a fee. It is obvious, therefore, that there is need for greater vigilance in monitoring the implementation of this Protocol.

Similarly, the difficulties being encountered in the application of the Community trade liberalisation programme were fully examined during the round of talks with my colleagues. We must all take seriously the task of analysing, through the relevant technical Commissions, the problems and possibilities of implementing the Community trade liberalisation programme. The suggestion was made by a Ministerial colleague that we should seek the services a neutral and competent international organisation in a study to find a realistic solution to the specific problem of developing intra-Community trade in an equitable manner.

Lastly, our discussions touched upon the chronic problem of Member States' financial contributions towards the running of the Community. Fortunately, the three countries visited are among the regular contributors and we were therefore able to discuss the issue in an objective manner. It was felt that, in the final analysis, the problem boiled down to the question of commitment to sub regional cooperation rather than the lack of means on the part of member States concerned

to fulfil their financial obligations to Community Institutions. I will, therefore, like to seize the opportunity of this occasion to appeal to Member States in arrears of contributions to the Executivé Secretariat and the ECOMAS Fund to offset their arrears of payment.

Ronourable Minister,

Distinguished Delegates,

I am happy to report that the Ministers I visited were of the opinion that such missions undertaken to promote an exchange of views on problems affecting the countries of the sub-region. were beneficial and ought to be encouraged. I can only hope that the institutions of the Community will be able to programme such missions in future and also encourage both bilateral and multilateral contacts.

Dear Colleagues,

As I indicated earlier, I attended the annual joint meetings of the World Bank and the IMF. You will recall that similar contacts were made during the last year's meetings of these international organisations also in Washington DC. reflected in the report of the Managing Director during the meeting of the Board of Directors of the ECOWAS Fund, the Fund undertook a follow $\mathbf{u}_{\mathbb{R}^n}$ action, in the course of the post twelve months, on the basis of the expression of support by the various financial institutions that were contacted in 1986. My presence this year in Washington DC was to confirm the preparedness of these international bodies to entertain the specific demands that the Management of the Fund had tabled before them during the negotiations in the course of the year. We endeavoured in Washington to meet as many of the delegations of these institutions as time would permit. I am glad to report that the recep tion accorded to us was cordial. As proof of this, the Chief Executives of our institutions have been requested to organise a joint meeting with these donors in order to have a morestructured approach to the mobilisation of additional resources for the Community s economic recovery and other cooperation programmes.

Honourable Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that 2COWAS, and indeed any sub-regional co operation involves voluntary association among countries. Nothing is rigid and we should feel free to try any system that we judge would promote better understanding and bring prosperity to our people. For my part, I have tried to give expression to the spirit of brotherhood and conceration that mark our meetings, by getting involved in the running of the institutions of the Community and by consulting with fellow colleagues when necessary. It is my hope that we shall be able to profit from this experience and improve upon our performance in succeeding years.

I am also grateful to the Chief Executives of the Institutions of the Community for their cooperation. I would like to express, once again, my gratitude to those Ministerial colleagues whom I visited during the period under review, for their warm hospitality.

Honourable Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I take this opportunity to reliterate the continued interest and commitment of Nigeria to the stable development of the Economic Community of West African States as a viable organisation which will promote peace and prosperity in the sub-region.

Once again, dear colleagues, I welcome you all to Migeria and wish the Council fruitful deliberations.

I thank you.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

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

22ND MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBER 1987

22EME SESSION DU CONSEIL DES MINISTRES

LAGOS, 26 - 28 NOVEMBRE 1987

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

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