

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

LOME, 24 - 25 JUNE 1988

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) held its Eleventh Ordinary Session at Lome, the Togolese Republic on 24th and 25th June, 1988, under the Chairmanship of General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Present at the Summit were the following Heads of State and Government and/or their accredited representatives:

- His Excellency, General Mathieu KEREKOU,
Président du Comité Central du Parti de
la Révolution Populaire du Bénin,
Président de la République,
Chef de l'Etat,
Président du Conseil Exécutif National.
- His Excellency, Captain Blaise COMPAORE,
President of the Popular Front,
Head of State,
Head of Government,
BURKINA FASO.

- His Excellency, Aristides Maria PEREIRA,
President of the Republic of CABO VERDE.
- His Excellency, Mr. Félix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY,
President of the Republic of COTE D'IVOIRE.
- His Excellency, Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba JAWARA,
President of the Republic of THE GAMBIA.
- His Excellency, Flight-Lieutenant
Jerry John RAWLINGS,
Head of State and Chairman of the Provisional
National Defence Council of the Republic of GHANA.
- His Excellency, General de Divisão
Joao Bernardo VIEIRA,
President of the Republic of GUINEA BISSAO.
- His Excellency, Dr. Samuel Kanyon DOE,
President of the Republic of LIBERIA.
- His Excellency, General Moussa TRAORE,
Secretary General of the Malian People's
Democratic Union,
President of the Republic of MALI.
- His Excellency, Colonel Maouiya Ould Sid Ahmed TAYA
Chairman of the Military Committee for National
Salvation
Head of State of the Islamic Republic of MAURITANIA.
- His Excellency, Colonel Ali SAIBOU,
Chairman of the Supreme Military Council,
Head of State of the Republic of NIGER.
- His Excellency, General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA,
President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed
Forces of the Federal Republic of NIGERIA.
- His Excellency, Mr. Abdou DIOUF,
President of the Republic of SENEGAL.

- His Excellency, Major-General Dr. Joseph Saidu MOMOH
President of the Republic of SIERRA LEONE.
- His Excellency, General Gnassingbe EYADEMA,
Founder-Chairman of the Togolese People's Rally,
President of the TOGOLESE Republic.
- Honourable Edouard BENJAMIN,
Minister of Planning and International Co-operation
representing
His Excellency, General Lansana CONTE,
President of the National Recovery Committee,
President of the Republic of GUINEA,
Head of State.

Attending the ECOWAS Summit as a Special Guest is His Excellency, Marshal Mobutu Sesse SEKO, Founder-Chairman of the People's Movement for the Revolution, President of the Republic of ZAIRE and Current Chairman of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

Attending the Eleventh Session as Observers are:

1. The President of the African Development Bank (ADB)
2. The Executive Secretary of the West African Clearing House (W.A.C.H.)
3. The President, Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce (F.W.A.C.C.)
4. The President of ECOBANK
5. The Governor of the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO)
6. The Secretary-General, West African Economic Community (CEAO)
7. The President of the West African Development Bank (BOAD)
8. The Secretary-General, Conseil de l'ENTENTE
9. The Secretary-General, Economic Community of Central African States (C.E.E.A.C.)
10. The Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP) Group.

11. The President of the Committee of ECOWAS Ambassadors in Brussels
12. The Director of the ECA/MULPOC Niamey
13. The Representative of the World Bank
14. The Representative of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
15. The Representative of the Panafrican News Agency (PANA)
16. The Representative of the West African Bankers Association (W.A.B.A.).

At the end of its Session, the Authority took the following decisions:

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMISSION

The Authority institutionalised the meeting of Finance and Establishment Experts. The functions of the new technical body, to be known as Administration and Finance Commission, are to consider the draft budget of the Community as well as all financial and administrative matters of the Community Institutions.

2. ECOWAS RESOLUTION ON DUMPING OF NUCLEAR AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE

The Authority adopted a Resolution, strongly condemning the incidence of dumping of nuclear and other industrial waste, and urged each ECOWAS Member State to take all possible measures to prevent such disposal of industrial waste. By this Resolution, all sixteen Governments in West Africa undertook to enact laws in their respective countries to make it a criminal offence for anybody, group of persons or firms or organisations to take part in any act that facilitates the dumping of nuclear and industrial waste in any of their territories.

The Resolution calls upon the Governments of industrialised countries to take the necessary measures to ensure the safe disposal of nuclear and industrial waste and to prevent the export of these waste materials to other countries.

3. ENHANCEMENT OF ECOWAS FUND RESOURCES

The Authority accepted the principle of restructuring the ECOWAS Fund to enhance its resources.

The Authority adopted the terms and conditions for the paid-up capital of the second tranche, amounting to fifty million US Dollars (US\$50,000,000).

4. ECOWAS TRADE LIBERALISATION SCHEME

The Authority urged every Member State to take all the measures necessary for the effective take-off of the scheme in the very near future.

5. FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS

The Authority re-affirmed its full commitment to the application of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment. The Authority took note of the recommendations formulated by the Council of Ministers to eliminate all obstacles to the implementation of the first two phases of this Protocol.

6. PAYMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Member States renewed their earlier pledge to honour their financial obligations to the Institutions of the Community.

7. EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU

The Authority expressed its deep appreciation to His Excellency Marshall MOBUTU SESSE SEKO, Founder-Chairman of the People's Movement for the Revolution, President of the Republic of Zaire and the current Chairman of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), for his presence at the Eleventh session of the ECOWAS Summit. The Authority re-affirmed its strong belief in close cooperation between African economic groupings as a means for achieving the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) objective of an African Common Market.

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR SELECTION AND EVALUATION OF STATUTORY APPOINTEES

The Authority instituted an Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee for the selection and evaluation of the performance of Statutory Appointees in the two institutions of the Community.

9.. EXPIRATION OF TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE FUND

The Authority did not renew the appointment of the Executive Secretary, but asked Sierra Leone to nominate another Sierra Leonean for the post.

The mandate of the External Auditor was renewed for another period of two (2) years as from 1st January, 1989.

Council informed the Authority of the renewal of the term of office of the Managing Director of the ECOWAS Fund for a further period of four (4) years as from 1st January, 1989.

10. VOTE OF THANKS

The Authority expressed its sincere gratitude to His Excellency General Gnassingbe EYADEMA, Founder-Chairman of the Togolese People's Rally, President of the Togolese Republic and to the Government and People of Togo for the very warm welcome extended to all delegations and for the excellent facilities made available to ensure the success of all the ECOWAS Statutory meetings.

11. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Authority elected THE GAMBIA as its Chairman for the year 1989.

12. VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT SUMMIT

The Authority decided to hold its Twelfth Session in BANJUL, Republic of THE GAMBIA at a date to be communicated later.

DONE AT LOME, THIS 25TH DAY OF JUNE, 1988