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ABUJA-NIGERIA, 23 JUNE, 2005

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REGULATION C/REC.1/06/05 ADOPTING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF AN EXTERNAL AUDITOR FOR ECOWAS AND ITS INSTITUTIONS

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 Article 75 of the said Treaty relating to the appointment of External Auditors to the Community;

CONSIDERING that the tenure of the firm of Coopers and Lybrand appointed as External Auditors to the Community pursuant to Article 75 of the ECOWAS Treaty expires on 26 February 2006 after having been renewed for a third term;

AWARE of- the urgent need for a posteriori monitoring of the utilization and management of proceeds from the Community Levy by all the institutions;

DESIROUS, therefore, of appointing External Auditors for the aforementioned purpose, pursuant to clearly defined terms of reference;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The terms of reference for the appointment of External Auditors to the Community as attached in Annex to this Regulation are hereby adopted.

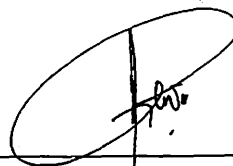
ARTICLE 2

The Executive Secretariat shall be responsible for organizing and overseeing the screening exercise for the appointment of the said External Auditors.

ARTICLE 3

This Regulation shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the Executive Secretariat within thirty [30] days after signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette within the same time frame.

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE, 2005**



**HON. AICHAITOU MINDAOU DOU
CHAIRPERSON
FOR: THE COUNCIL**

REGULATION C/REG.2/06/05 RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF A PLAN OF ACTION 2005 - 2010 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECOWAS AGRICULTURAL POLICY (ECOWAP) AND THE NEPAD / COMPREHENSIVE AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CAADP) 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;

MINDFUL of Decision A/Dec.01/01/05 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government adopting the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy [ECOWAP];

MINDFUL of the call on Member States within that Decision A/Dec.01/01/05 to harmonize their national agricultural policies with the regional policy, and to place emphasis on those aspects that depend on interventions at the national level;

ALSO RECALLING the invitation to other Regional integration or cooperation organizations to align their strategies, policies, and programs in the agricultural,

food and natural resource management sectors with the guiding principles and priorities of the West African Agricultural Policy and all private sector Stakeholders and Socio-Professional organizations to actively take part in the implementation monitoring and evaluation of this policy;

ALSO MINDFUL of the directives to the Executive Secretariat, to define more precisely, a plan of action, the institutional structure, the financing system and lastly a monitoring system and lastly a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the effective implementation of the Policy;

DESIRING to adopt a Plan of Action in this regard;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the meeting of the Ministerial Commission on Agriculture and Food held in Accra, Ghana, on 3rd May, 2005;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The attached Plan of Action 2005 - 2010 for the implementation of the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP), the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the NEPAD Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) in West Africa is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2

The Executive Secretariat shall in facilitating and coordinating implementation of the Plan of Action undertake the following measures:

- ensure coherence between the ECOWAP, NEPAD/CAADP and Millennium Development Goals (MDG) on one hand and between ECOWAP and the national agricultural policies, on the other hand;
- update the inventory of all on-going programs and projects and associated costs for the various components of the plan of action;
- input the ECOWAP plan of actions within the framework of NEPAD/CAAD implementation in West Africa;
- define qualitative and quantitative indicators for the various intervention programs of the ECOWAP plan of actions;
- engage the various stakeholders in the agricultural sector in consultations of the

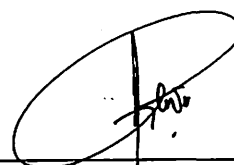
Common External Tariff for their concerns to be taken on board;

- sensitize all stakeholders on the adopted ECOWAP and the Plan of Actions and give more consideration to artisanal fisheries and forestry,

ARTICLE 3

This Regulation shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the Executive Secretariat within thirty [30] days after signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette within the same time frame.

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2005**



**HON. AICHATOU MINDAOUDOU
CHAIRPERSON
FOR: THE COUNCIL**

REGULATION C/REG.3/06/05 APPROVING THE HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND ECOWAS AND AUTHORISING THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Article 2 of the ECOWAS Treaty signed in Cotonou on 24 July 1993, which reaffirms the establishment of the Economic Community of West African States;

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

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.12/01/03 dated 31 January 2003 establishing an ECOWAS Liaison Office in Brussels;

RECALLING the direct and closer working relations that now exist between the regional organisations and institutions involved in the ACP/EU cooperation and which are based in Brussels, namely the European Commission, the Committee of Ambassadors, the ACF Secretariat, the Centre for the Development of Industries (CDI), and the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (TCA);

CONSIDERING that ECOWAS is frequently involved in negotiations taking place in Brussels;

CONSIDERING the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and ECOWAS, which defines the privileges and immunities which will enable the Bureau to function smoothly and allow the staff of the Bureau to carry out their mission effectively;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the thirty-third meeting of the Administration and Finance Commission held at Abuja, from 20th to 22nd June 2005;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Economic Community of West African States annexed to this Regulation is hereby approved.

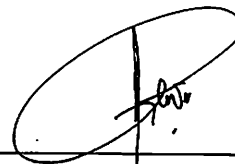
ARTICLE 2

The Executive Secretary is hereby authorised to sign the Headquarters Agreement referred to in Article 1 above.

ARTICLE 3

This Regulation shall be published by the Executive Secretariat in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette within the same time frame.

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23rd DAY OF JUNE 2005**



**HON. AICHATOU MINDAOUDOU
CHAIRPERSON
FOR: THE COUNCIL**

(DRAFT)

**HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM**

AND

**THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST
AFRICAN STATES**

The Kingdom of Belgium, hereinafter referred to as "Belgium",

and

The Economic Community of West African States, hereinafter referred to as "the ECOWAS";

Having regard to the ECOWAS Treaty, signed on 24 July 1993;

Responding to the desire of the ECOWAS to establish an ECOWAS Liaison Office in -Belgium, hereinafter referred to as "the Office";

Wishing to conclude an agreement to determine the privileges and immunities necessary for the functioning of the Office and for the successful accomplishment of the mission of its staff;

Have agreed as follows:

**CHAPTER I
PERSONALITY, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES
OF THE LIAISON OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES**

Article 1

The Office shall have international legal personality and capacity.

Article 2

The properties and assets of the ECOWAS used for the exercising of the official functions of the Office shall enjoy legal immunity except where expressly renounced by the ECOWAS.

Article 3

1. The properties and assets of the ECOWAS used for the exercising of the official functions of the Office may not be subject to any form of requisition, confiscation, sequestration nor to any other form of seizure or constraint.

2. Should any form of expropriation be necessary, all appropriate action will be taken to prevent the exercising of the functions of the Office being impeded in any way, In this case Belgium will give its assistance to enable relocation of the Office.

Article 4

The archives of the Office, and, in a general way, all documents of the ECOWAS or those held by it or by one of its staff members shall be inviolable.

Article 5

1. The premises used exclusively for the exercising of the functions of the Office are inviolable. Permission of the ECOWAS shall be required for access to its premises.
2. This permission, however, shall be assumed in case of emergencies requiring prompt protective action.
3. Belgium shall take all appropriate measures to prevent invasion or damage to the Office premises, to prevent the peace of the ECOWAS being disturbed or its dignity being diminished in any way.

Article 6

1. Without prejudice to the international provisions and to the relevant provisions of the European Community the Office may hold currency of any kind and operate accounts in all currencies insofar as necessary for the execution of operations corresponding to its aim.
2. Belgium undertakes to grant the ECOWAS all authorisations necessary to freely transfer, according to the modalities provided for in the applicable national regulations and international agreements, funds necessary for the setting up and operation of the Office.

Article 7

The Office, its properties, its incomes and other goods shall be exempt from all direct taxes.

No exemption from direct taxes shall be granted for incomes of the ECOWAS which originate from an industrial or commercial activity exercised by the ECOWAS or by the Office or by one of its members for the ECOWAS or the Office or a member of the ECOWAS.

Article 8

When the Office makes substantial purchases of movable-or immovable goods or has substantial services performed that are strictly necessary for the exercising of its official activities and where the price includes indirect taxes or VAT, appropriate measures shall be taken whenever possible with a view to the remission or reimbursement of the amount of these taxes.

Article 9

The Office shall be exempt of all indirect taxes regarding goods imported, acquired or exported by it or in its name for its official use.

Article 10

Without prejudice to the obligations arising for Belgium from the treaties concerning the European Union and the application of legal and regulatory provisions regarding public order, security, health or morals, the Office may import all goods and publications destined for its official use.

Article 11

The Office shall be exempt from all indirect taxes regarding the official publications that it receives or sends abroad.

Article 12

The goods belonging to the ECOWAS cannot be disposed of in Belgium except under conditions provided by Belgian laws and regulations.

Article 13

The Office shall not be exempt from taxes and duties that are, in fact, no more than charges for public utility services.

Article 14

Freedom of communication for its official purposes shall be guaranteed to the Office. Its official correspondence shall be inviolable.

Article 15

Without prejudice to the obligations arising for Belgium from the treaties concerning the European Union and the application of laws and regulations, the conditions and procedures for the application of

Articles 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 and the fiscal exemptions resulting from article 17.1 a) shall be determined by the Minister of Finance of the Belgian Government.

CHAPTER II LEGAL POSITION OF STAFF MEMBERS

Article 16

The Head of the Office and his/her assistant shall enjoy the immunities, privileges and facilities granted to the members of the diplomatic personnel of diplomatic missions.

Their spouse and their dependent children, living under the same roof, shall enjoy the privileges granted to the spouses and to the minor children of the diplomatic personnel.

Article 17

1. All officials and other servants of the Office, shall enjoy:
 - a) exemption from all taxes on salaries, emoluments and indemnities paid to them by the ECOWAS, from the date on which their incomes are subject to taxation for the benefit of the ECOWAS, subject to recognition by Belgium of this internal taxation system; Belgium reserves for itself the right to take into account the said salaries, emoluments and indemnities for calculating the amount of tax to be levied on the taxable income originating from other sources;
 - b) the facilities accorded to officials of international organisations in respect of currency or exchange regulations.
2. All officials and other servants of the Office shall enjoy:
 - a) legal immunity for acts performed in their official capacity, including words written or spoken; such immunity shall apply even after they have left the service;
 - b) inviolability of all official papers and documents.
3. All officials and other servants of the Office, as well as their legal spouse and their dependent children, living under the same roof, shall enjoy exemption from measures restricting immigration and from aliens registration

formalities. This exemption shall be given in accordance with Belgian legislation on the matter.

4. The Office shall notify the Protocol Service of the Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs of the arrival and final departure of its staff members and shall also provide the following specific information about all its officials and other servants:
 - a) surname and first name
 - b) place and date of birth
 - c) sex
 - d) nationality
 - e) permanent residence (town, street, number)
 - f) civil status
 - g) composition of the family
 - h) the social security scheme chosen by the staff member.

The Protocol Service of the Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs shall be notified, within fifteen days, of any changes to the above-mentioned data.

Article 18

The provisions of article 17.1 (a) shall not apply to pensions and annuities paid by the ECOWAS to its former officials and servants in Belgium or to their successors nor to salaries, emoluments and indemnities paid by the ECOWAS or by the Office to its servants engaged for a period of less than one year or who do not occupy a permanent position at the ECOWAS considering the mission and the statutory regulations of that Organization.

Article 19

Without prejudice to the obligations arising for Belgium from the treaties concerning the European Union and to the application of laws and regulations, the officials and other servants of the Office, except the persons referred to in Article 16, shall enjoy the right, during a period of twelve months following their first taking up their duties in Belgium, to import or purchase, in exemption of import duties and value added tax (VAT), furniture and a motor vehicle for their personal use.

The Minister for Finance of the Belgian Government shall determine the limits and conditions under which this Article applies.

Article 20

Belgium shall not be bound to extend to its own nationals or to permanent residents *the advantages*, privileges and immunities granted under this Agreement, except for those provided for in Article 17.1 a) and 17.2 of this Agreement.

Article 21

For the exercising of their official functions within the ECOWAS, the officials and other servants of the Office shall not be subject to Belgian legislation on employment of foreign workers and on the exercising of professional self-employed activities by foreigners.

Article 22

The Office shall issue, before the 1st of March of each year, to all beneficiaries a form specifying, besides their names and addresses, the amount of the salaries, emoluments and indemnities, pensions or annuities paid to them by the ECOWAS during the course of the previous year.

Regarding salaries, emoluments and indemnities liable to taxation for the profit of the ECOWAS, this form shall also mention the amount of this tax.

Besides, the ECOWAS shall send before the same date a duplicate of this form directly to the competent Belgian Fiscal Administration.

Article 23

1. The officials and other servants of the Office who are not Belgian nationals or who are not permanently residing in Belgium and are not exercising in Belgium any other gainful activity except that required by their functions; can choose to be covered by the social security schemes applicable to the officials and other servants of the ECOWAS under the rules provided for by those schemes. This right of option must be exercised by the official or servant of the Office within fifteen days of his first taking up his duties, and must be notified, also within fifteen days of his first taking up his duties, in accordance with Article 17.4.
2. The ECOWAS will ensure coverage by the Belgian social security system of its Belgian

officials and other servants or permanent residents, as well as of its officials and other servants who have not opted for coverage by the social protection schemes provided by the ECOWAS itself.

3. The ECOWAS undertakes to guarantee its officials and other servants posted in Belgium who are covered by its own social security schemes, as well as their legal spouse and their dependent children, living under the same roof, referred to in Article 17.3, advantages equivalent to those provided by the Belgian social security system.
4. Servants engaged by the Office who do not occupy a permanent position at the ECOWAS considering the mission and the statutory regulations of that Organization will be covered by the Belgian social security system.
5. Belgium can obtain from the ECOWAS the repayment of costs incurred for any aid having a social character it may have to provide to ECOWAS officials and other servants posted to the Office who are covered by the social security schemes applicable to ECOWAS officials and other servants.

CHAPTER III GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 24

The privileges and immunities are granted to the officials and other servants of the Office only in the interest of the Office and not for their personal advantage. The Head of the Office must waive all immunity whenever the immunity would impede the course of justice and can be waived without prejudicing the proper functioning of the Office.

Article 25

Without prejudice to the rights conferred upon the ECOWAS and the officials and other servants of the Office by this Agreement, Belgium reserves the right to take all necessary precautions in the interest of its security.

Article 26

The persons referred to in Chapter II, Articles 16 and 17 shall not enjoy any legal immunity regarding motor traffic offences or damages caused by a motor vehicle.

The ECOWAS and the officials and other servants of the Office shall comply with all obligations imposed by Belgian legislation concerning civil liability insurance for the use of any motor vehicle.

Article 27

The ECOWAS and all officials and other servants of the Office shall co-operate at all times, with the appropriate Belgian authorities to facilitate the proper administration of justice, to ensure observation of police regulations and to prevent the occurrence of any abuse in connection with the immunities and privileges provided for in this Agreement.

Article 28

The ECOWAS and all officials and other servants of the Office shall comply with Belgian laws and regulations and with judgments rendered against them.

Article 29

Belgium shall have no international responsibility whatsoever for the activities of the ECOWAS on its territory as regards the acts or omissions of the ECOWAS or of the officials and other servants of the Office acting or failing to act in the exercise of their functions.

Article 30

1. Any difference of views regarding the application or interpretation of this Agreement, which cannot be resolved through direct negotiations between the parties, may be submitted, by one of the parties, to an arbitral tribunal composed of three members.
2. The Belgian Government and the ECOWAS shall each appoint one arbitrator.
3. The members so appointed shall choose their President.
4. In case of disagreement on the choice of the President, the President shall be appointed by the President of the International Court of Justice at the request of the members of the arbitral tribunal.
5. The dispute shall be brought to the arbitral tribunal upon application of either party.
6. The arbitral tribunal shall determine its own procedure.

**CHAPTER IV
FINAL PROVISIONS**

Article 31

Both parties shall notify each other of the completion of the internal procedures required for the entry into force of this Agreement.

This Agreement can be revised at the request of one of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Representatives of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Economic Community of West African States have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Brussels, on.....

in triplicate, in the French, Dutch and English Languages, the three texts being equally authentic.

**For the
Government of the Kingdom of Belgium:**

**For the
Economic Community of West African States:**

**Dr Mohamed IBN CHAMBAS
Executive Secretary.**

REGULATION C/REG.4/06/05 RELATING TO THE MISSION, ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF ECOWAS NATIONAL UNITS

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 Recommendation C/REC.1/11/82 dated 17th November, 1982 establishing national units for the Coordination and monitoring of ECOWAS activities in the Member States and their establishment thereon;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.3/12/90 dated 13th December, 1990 upgrading the Status of ECOWAS National Units in the Member States;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.5/01/05 dated 19th January, 2005 relating to the establishment of National Focal Points for ECOWAS/NEPAD Programmes;

RECOGNIZING that the role of ECOWAS National Unit assumes added importance with the deepening of the regional integration process, the focus on the implementation of ECOWAS programmes in member States, the increased participation of West African Countries in the NEPAD initiative as well as the proposed establishment of ECOWAS Representation in Member States;

IN VIEW of the wide range of activities to be undertaken by National Units and the numerous points of contacts to be maintained in the course of facilitating successful Regional integration;

AWARE of the need to clearly define the mandates of these ECOWAS National Units to enable them bring about at the national level, active participation of Member States in the various regional decision-making process of ECOWAS as well as in the implementation of adopted regional decisions and instruments;

DESIROUS to this end, to set out the mission, role and functions of the ECOWAS National Units;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Thirty-third meeting of the Administration and Finance Commission held from 20th to 22nd June 2005;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

The mission of an ECOWAS National Unit is to ensure the maximum participation and contribution of the Member State to the regional integration and development process to enable the country derive optimum benefit from its ECOWAS membership.

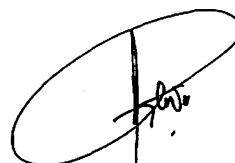
ARTICLE 2

The roles and functions of the ECOWAS National unit set out in the attached annex to this Regulation are hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 3

This Regulation shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the Executive Secretariat within thirty (30) days after signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette within the same time frame.

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2005**



**HON. AICHATOU MINDAOUDOU
CHAIRPERSON
FOR: THE COUNCIL**

ANNEX**ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE
ECOWAS NATIONAL UNIT****I. Information and Enlightenment**

1. The National Unit is to inform and enlighten all actors about ECOWAS and the regional integration process. Specifically, the Unit should:

- acquire and distribute information on ECOWAS, its activities and programmes;
- develop and update a national information and communication data system on ECOWAS (printed material and electronic), including a network of distribution points for ECOWAS information;
- organise, on a regular basis, public enlightenment campaigns and sensitisation workshops on thematic integration issues; and
- organise regular press and media programmes (print, radio and television) on ECOWAS and regional integration.

II. Mobilisation, Organisation and Technical Support

2. The National Unit is to mobilise and organise all actors at the national level and provide necessary technical support. The Unit should consequently:

- establish and maintain contact with actors and interest groups, particularly those identified in specific ECOWAS or other regional initiatives;
- facilitate the creation of national associations of interest groups (private sector, professionals or civil society);
- encourage participation of different segments of the society in regional integration programmes;
- establish and provide technical support to Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee;
- ensure regular ministerial level (Cabinet) review of ECOWAS issues;
- establish and ensure effective functioning of National Technical Coordination Committee (with representation from public service, private sector and civil society);

- establish sector-specific Technical sub-Committees on priority regional integration issues;
- facilitate participation of national associations in regional events and ECOWAS programmes;
- facilitate access of the ECOWAS representative (Bureau Chief) and other personnel to appropriate government officials;
- seek involvement (advice, attendance, technical contribution etc) of the ECOWAS Bureau in the programmes and activities of the National Unit;
- provide technical assistance required for the smooth functioning of the ECOWAS Bureau; and
- sustain close working relations with the national NEPAD focal point.

III. Participation in ECOWAS Decision-making Process

3. In order to play effectively its role of facilitating the full participation of the country in the integration process, the National Unit should:

- initiate necessary background studies to facilitate identification of national interests and concerns on any regional issues raised under ECOWAS programme activities;
- convene, on a systematic basis, appropriate national technical committees to review issues of national interest raised under ECOWAS initiatives (e.g. agenda items of ECOWAS meetings);
- ensure involvement and participation of all key stakeholders concerned in this review process;
- propose regional programme(s) in new area(s) for consideration at the regional level;
- adopt clear national positions, in preparation for ECOWAS meetings and other regional negotiating fora; ensure that the relevant Ministry assumes leadership of the process of evolving a national position on any given matter;
- ensure designation of appropriate national delegations (with respect to subject coverage and level of representation) for ECOWAS meetings; and

- facilitate the attendance and effective participation of the Member State in ECOWAS meetings at all levels (preparatory technical groups; Commission - technical and ministerial; Council of Ministers; and Authority).

IV. Implementation of ECOWAS Programmes

4. In performing the critical role of ensuring the effective implementation of ECOWAS programmes, the National Unit should:
 - inform and involve all stakeholders (public and private sector officials and civil society) concerned with any ECOWAS programmes;
 - ensure the dispatch of the enabling ECOWAS legal instrument (convention, protocol, decision, regulation, declaration, etc) and other related information to all parties involved in the applicable programme implementation process;
 - ensure the incorporation of Community acts and decisions in relevant national legislation and development policies as enunciated, for example, in national plans and annual budget statements;
 - ensure the formation of a national programme implementation group and designation of a lead implementing agency;
 - facilitate the preparation and adoption of an appropriate national programme implementation plan and/or guidelines;
 - ensure the formulation and adoption of administrative and institutional policy measures needed to facilitate implementation of regional policies and programmes;
 - facilitate the mobilisation of all necessary resources for the implementation of each programme;
 - establish a national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for key integration programmes, including the designation of ECOWAS focal points in strategic ministries, agencies, chamber of commerce, manufacturers association, etc., in particular, ensure that the M & E system includes creation of a database and selection of key performance indicators to monitor; and

- ensure the submission of regular progress reports on programme implementation to the Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee or Cabinet, and facilitate follow-up action.

V. Meeting Principal National Obligations

5. The National Unit is to ensure that the Member State fulfils promptly its obligations to the Community. In particular, the National Unit should:
 - make available to appropriate national authorities, particularly Ministry of Justice and National Assembly, the signed texts of Community acts;
 - facilitate and monitor the ratification process;
 - ensure, through collaboration with Ministry of Justice, relevant sector ministries and National Assembly the enactment of national legislation needed for the implementation at the national level of Community acts and decisions;
 - ensure the effective application of the Community levy, and the prompt payment of financial contributions due;
 - encourage the establishment of national committees created under the various ECOWAS programmes, and monitor their functioning;
 - ensure the compilation and timely dispatch of information on the Member State that is requested periodically by the Community Institutions; and
 - organise, coordinate or monitor as appropriate national action to be taken as a component, or within the framework of a regional programme (e.g. national stand-by unit as part of the regional military Stand-by Force).

VI. Participation in Regional Events

6. The National Unit should encourage maximum participation of economic operators, civil society groups in regional events. Specifically, the Unit should facilitate and ensure participation of national groups in such regional events as business forum, trade fair and exhibition, trade mission, exchange programme, etc.

**RECOMMENDATION C/REC.1/06/05 RELATING TO
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE
FOR ECOWAS AND THE ADOPTION OF ITS
MANDATE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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 Council's responsibility as defined by articles 10 and 18 [4] (a) of the said Treaty for the efficient functioning and development of the Community which amongst other duties include:

- i. approving the organizational structure of the institutions of the Community;
- ii. approving the budgets of the Community and its institutions;
- iii. recommending the appointment "of the External Auditors of the Institutions of the Community and;
- iv. appointment of the Financial Controller of the institutions of the Community.

AWARE of the need to establish a mechanism that would ensure that the most efficient, effective and economic risk control and governance processes are in place in ECOWAS institutions and that the associated assurance processes are also optimal in these institutions;

RECOGNISING that such a mechanism would assist in overseeing the work of the Financial Controller and the External Auditors, and also assist in monitoring and reviewing the internal audit function, risk management, and the internal control system of ECOWAS Institutions;

RECALLING our endorsement made at our Fifty-second session in Accra in January 2003, of the proposal from the Executive Secretariat for the establishment of an Audit Committee;

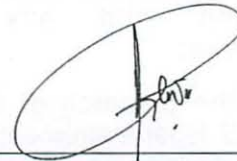
DESIRING therefore to establish a body that would facilitate the oversight responsibilities of Council in the area of financial administration and management of the resources of the Community Institutions and assist Council in monitoring the functioning and development of the Community;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Executive Secretariat made at the Fifty-fourth Session of our meeting held in Abuja on 23rd June 2005;

RECOMMENDS

TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT to adopt the attached Draft Decision relating to the Establishment of an ECOWAS Audit Committee and the adoption of the mandate and terms of reference of the Committee.

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2005**



HON. AICHATOU MINDAOUDOU
Chairperson
FOR: THE COUNCIL

DECISION A/DEC. /12/05 RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE FOR ECOWAS AND THE ADOPTION OF ITS MANDATE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

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;

MINDFUL of the Council's responsibility as defined by Articles 10 and 18 (4) (a) of the said Treaty for the efficient functioning and development of the Community which amongst other duties include:

- i. approving the organizational structure of the institutions of the Community,
- ii. approving the budgets of the Community and its institutions;
- iii. and recommending the appointment of the External Auditors of the Institutions of the Communities and;
- iv. appointment of the Financial Controller of the institutions of the Community.

AWARE of the need to establish a mechanism that would ensure that the most efficient, effective and economic risk control and governance processes are in place in ECOWAS institutions and that the associated assurance processes are also optimal in these institutions;

RECOGNISING that such a mechanism would assist in overseeing the work of the Financial Controller and the External auditors and also assist in monitoring and reviewing the internal audit function, risk management and the internal control system of ECOWAS Institutions;

DESIRING therefore to establish a body that would facilitate the oversight responsibilities of Council in the area of financial administration and management of the resources of the Community Institutions and assist Council in monitoring the functioning and development of the Community;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Fifty-fourth session of the Council of Ministers held in Abuja 23rd June 2005;

ARTICLE 1

There is hereby established an Audit Committee for the Institutions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

ARTICLE 2

The Audit Committee shall comprise representatives of Member States who shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers for a four (4) year term.

Membership of the Audit Committee shall be on a rotational basis and shall, for this first term, be drawn from the following Member States:

- (i) Republic of Benin
- (i) Federal Republic of Nigeria
- (iii) Republic of Senegal; and
- (iv) Republic of Sierra Leone.

ARTICLE 3

The Committee shall assist the Council of Ministers in discharging its function of establishing and maintaining good internal financial control principles as well as financial accounting standards within the Institutions of the Community.

ARTICLE 4

The mandate and terms of Reference of the Audit Committee as contained in the attached annex to this decision is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 5

This Decision shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the Executive Secretariat within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published within the same time frame by each Member State in its National Gazette.

**DONE AT NIAMEY,
THIS DAY OF 2005**

**H.E. MAMADOU TANDJA
CHAIRMAN
FOR: THE AUTHORITY**

RECOMMENDATION C/REC.2/6/05 ON GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS TO THE CONGRESS OF CULTURAL ACTORS IN WEST AFRICA, CCAWA/CACAO

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 Article 61 of the said Treaty which enjoins Member States to cooperate with a view to mobilizing the various sections of the population and ensuring their effective integration and involvement in the social development of the region;

MINDFUL ALSO of Member States undertaken to pursue the objectives of the Community cultural framework Agreement of 9th July, 1987 which requires the promotion of all forms of cultural exchanges and the development or improvement of structures and mechanisms for; propagating cultural industries;

RECOGNISING the Congress of Cultural Actors in West Africa (CCAWA/CACAO) as one whose many objects include the promotion of culture as the mainstay of development, human and social integration as a vehicle and factor of peace and, the stimulation and facilitation of cultural exchanges between West African Art and cultural Professionals;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.9/8/94 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government establishing Regulations for the granting to Nongovernmental Organisations (NGOs) the status of Observer within the Institutions of the Community;

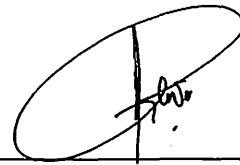
DESIRING to ensure effective implementation of the cultural mandate of the organization;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the second meeting of the Human Resources, information, Social and Cultural affairs Commission held in Abuja 12th - 14th April, 2005;

RECOMMENDS

TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT to adopt the attached Decision on the Granting of Observer Status within the Institutions of ECOWAS, to the Congress of Cultural Actors in West Africa [CCAWA/CACAO].

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23rd DAY OF JUNE 2005**



**HON. AICHATOU MINDAOUDOU
CHAIRPERSON
FOR THE COUNCIL**

[DRAFT]

**DECISION A/DEC. /12/05 ON GRANTING OF
OBSERVER STATUS TO THE CONGRESS OF
CULTURAL ACTORS IN WEST AFRICA CCAWA/
CACAO**

**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;

MINDFUL of Article 61 of the said Treaty which enjoins Member States to cooperate with a view to mobilizing the various sections of the population and ensuring their effective integration and involvement in the social development of the region;

MINDFUL ALSO of Member States undertaken to pursue the objectives of the Community cultural framework Agreement of 9th July, 1987 which requires the promotion of all forms of cultural exchanges and the development or improvement of structures and mechanisms for propagating cultural industries;

RECOGNISING the Congress of Cultural Actors in West Africa (CCAWA/CACAO) as one whose many objectives include the promotion of culture as the mainstay of development, human and social integration, and as a vehicle and factor of peace, the stimulation and facilitation of cultural exchanges between West African Art and cultural Professionals;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.9/8/94 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government establishing Regulations for the granting to Non-Governmental Organisations [NGOs] the status of Observer within the Institutions of the Community;

DESIRING to ensure effective implementation of the cultural mandate of the organization;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Fifty-fourth session of the Council of Ministers held in Abuja on 23rd June 2005;

DECIDES**ARTICLE 1**

The Congress of Cultural Actors in West Africa (CCAWA/CACAO) is hereby granted, within the institutions of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the status of observer.

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall be published by the Executive Secretariat 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 the same time frame.

**DONE AT NIAMEY,
THIS.....DAY OF DECEMBER, 2005**

**H.E. MAMADOU TANDJA
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE AUTHORITY**

RECOMMENDATION C/REC.3/6/05 RELATING TO THE GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY, TO THE WEST AFRICAN MUSEUMS PROGRAMME (WAMP)

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 Article 61 of the said Treaty which enjoins member States to cooperate with a view to mobilizing the various sections of the population and ensuring their effective integration and involvement in the social development of the region;

MINDFUL of the need to encourage the promotion of all forms of cultural exchanges between Member States as provided by Article 62 of the ECOWAS Treaty;

MINDFUL of the Protocol A/P1/7/87 on the Cultural Framework Agreement for ECOWAS;

RECOGNISING the West African Museums Programme (WAMP) as an organization that amongst other things helps to strengthen the professional Museum network in West Africa and promotes links with the International Museums related network;

DESIRING to encourage and work with any reputable organization that would positively contribute to the preservation and enrichment of the African Cultural heritage;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the Second Meeting of the Human Resources, Information, Social and Cultural Affairs Commission held in Abuja 12-14th April, 2005;

RECOMMEND

TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENT to adopt the attached draft Decision Relating to the Granting of Observer Status within the Institutions of the.. Community, to the West African Museums Programme (WAMP).

**DONE AT ABUJA,
THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2005**



**HON. AICHATOUMINDAOU DOU
CHAIRPERSON, FOR: THE COUNCIL**

[DRAFT]

DECISION A/DEC. /12/05 RELATING TO THE GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY TO THE WEST AFRICAN MUSEUMS PROGRAMME (WAMP)

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;

MINDFUL of Article 61 of the said Treaty which enjoins Member States to cooperate with a view to mobilizing the various sections of the population and ensuring their effective integration and involvement in the social development of the region;

MINDFUL of the need to encourage the promotion of all forms of cultural exchanges between Member States as provided by Article 62 of the ECOWAS Treaty;

MINDFUL of the Protocol A/P1/7/87 on the Cultural Framework Agreement for ECOWAS;

RECOGNISING the West African Museums Programme [WAMP] as an organization that amongst other things helps to strengthen the professional Museum network in West Africa and promotes links with the International Museums related network;

DESIRING to encourage and work with any reputable organization that would positively contribute to the preservation and enrichment of the African Cultural heritage;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the fifty-fourth Session of the Council of Ministers held in Abuja on 23rd June 2005.

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

The West African Museums Programme (WAMP) is hereby granted within the Institutions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) the status of observer in category.

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall be published by the Executive Secretariat 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 the same time frame.

**DONE AT NIAMEY,
THIS.....DAY OF DECEMBER, 2005**

**H.E. MAMADOU TANDJA
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE AUTHORITY**

