



## **FORTY-SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

Abuja, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ACT A/SA.1/12/14 ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF PERFORMANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

#### **THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

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

**MINDFUL** of Article 60 of the said Treaty on cooperation in human resources;

**MINDFUL** of Decision A/Dec .11/5/82 on the establishment of an ad – hoc committee to determine the equivalence of certificates within ECOWAS;

**MINDFUL** of the General Convention A/C. 1/1/03 on the recognition and equivalence of degrees, diplomas, certificates and other qualifications in ECOWAS member States;

**MINDFUL** of ECOWAS Protocol A/P3/1/03 on education and training;

**RECALLING** the Pan-African Conference on Teachers Development (PACTED) Roadmap of AU of 1979 in Education and Research,

**MINDFUL** of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, right of residence and establishment;





**CONSIDERING** the need to invest heavily in Human Capital Development in order to bring the ECOWAS region out of the abyss of poverty, ignorance and under development;

**CONSIDERING** the need to produce high level personnel that will improve the system of Higher Education and carry out research in strategic areas of importance to the ECOWAS region;

**RECALLING** the Regional Convention on the recognition of studies and certificates diplomas, degrees and other higher educational qualification in African States (UNESCO), Arusha Regional Convention;

**CONSIDERING** that education is internationally acclaimed as the bedrock to all human endeavors, a key to development, building knowledge societies, establishing a culture of peace, promoting democracy and human rights, eradicating poverty and ensuring sustainable livelihood for the population;

**RECOGNIZING** that the level of development of a country depends largely on the quality of its education system as well as its teachers and the need to strengthen the tripartite chain of socio – economic performance, quality education and teacher development;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the need to institute initiatives that will improve teacher development, encourage research and impact on higher education;

**URGING** ECOWAS member States to set specific target allocation, at least 1% of their GDP for research purposes and Education;





**DESIROUS** of adopting a common position in order to support and effectively provide incentives and initiatives to promote teacher education and research.

**ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Seventy third ordinary session of the Council of Ministers held in Abuja from 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2014;**

**AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

**ARTICLE 1:**

In the area of higher education and research

Member states shall:

- a) Allocate one percent (1%) of their GDP to research as recommended by the then OAU in 1979 for implementation by Member States by 2025;
- b) Set target of 60% science with particular emphasis on studies of strategic importance to the region such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematic (STEM) and; 40% arts and humanities including General History of Africa (GHA) in the curriculum of Member States
- c) Step up efforts to increase access to quality Higher Education through increase in ICT and Open and Distance Learning delivery systems.
- d) Mobilize the private sector in the delivery of Higher Education and to guide them on the content of studies of strategic importance to the region
- e) encouraged to embark on staff capacity building sessions to improve pedagogical, research, as well as administrative and financial skills;
- f) ratify and implement the revised ARUSHA Convention and ECOWAS protocol on Education / Training and on Equivalence of Certificates.





- g) establish National Research Fund.
- h) Boost the morale of teachers through attractive remunerations and improved working conditions in order to retain and attract the best brains;
- i) Strengthen the capacities of teachers through continuous education;
- j) Device means of integrating cross-cutting contextual issues such as: culture of peace and security; climate change; environment; ICT; entrepreneurship; gender; emerging public health; and other key areas in to the school curriculum;
- k) Establish appropriate regulatory agency where not in existence to cater for professional standards, work ethics and discipline of teachers;
- l) Domesticated the PACTED roadmap.

## **Article 2:**

### **2. ECOWAS COMMISSION TO:**

- a) strengthen existing Universities and Research Centers currently under the auspices of ECOWAS, with emphasis on disciplines that meet the specific needs of research and development in the region at Masters and PhD Levels ;
- b) Create within the region, an academic mobility system for students and teachers (including diaspora) and encourage institution to put in place language immersion programmes to promote mobility of students and teachers in the region;





- c) Establish a coordinating Unit on Higher Education at the ECOWAS Commission, taking into cognizance the mandate and wealth of experience of other existing structures and networks in Member States;
- d) Develop a document that outlines the regional strategy for the harmonization of Higher Education in the region, outlining the competencies for the various professions and academic qualifications as a major task of the regional coordinating unit when established;
- e) Institute a regional award system to motivate best-performing higher education institutions and scholars in the area of quality of delivery, governance and research
- f) Carry out more sensitization on the African Union Pan African University and advocate for financial support to the Institute of Life and Earth Sciences (including Health and Agriculture) domiciled in the region (Ibadan) and urge Member States to host the Satellite Centres of the institutes;
- g) Commit to providing political and financial support to the Rectorate of Pan African University (PAU) where it is located in the Region;
- h) Encourage Member States to host Satellite Centers of the PAU and advocate for courses such as Marine Law and Fisheries; Mathematics and Civil Engineering; Gender and other highly specialized courses;
- i) Assist in the enhancement of necessary infrastructure for virtual learning that can complement activities of the universities geared towards improving access and quality;





- j) Establish Regional Research Fund and encourage Member States to established National Research Funds;
- k) Put in place a mechanism for following up political decisions at Regional level, preferably, appoint a champion at the level of Heads of State;
- l) Conduct situational Analysis of teachers training, motivation and remuneration of teachers within the region;
- m) Make efforts to disseminate and popularize the PACTED Roadmap among all stake holders;
- n) Encourage Member States to develop holistic Teacher policy that would cover training, recruitment, deployment, management, continuous training and professional career development.

### **ARTICLE 3**

ECOWAS Commission shall make necessary arrangements in order to diligently implement the PACTED roadmap

### **ARTICLE 4:**

This Supplementary Act shall be published by the President of the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National gazette within thirty (30) days after its notification by the Commission.

### **ARTICLE 5**

1. This supplementary Act shall enter into force upon its signature. Consequently, signatory member states undertake to commence the implementation of its provisions on its entry into force.





2. This supplementary Act shall be attached as an annex to the ECOWAS Treaty of which it forms an integral part.

#### **ARTICLE 6**

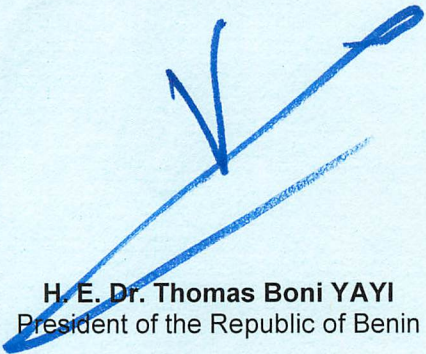
This Supplementary Act shall be deposited with the Commission which shall submit certified true copies thereof to all Member States and shall register it with the African Union, the United Nations and such other organizations as Council may determine.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES, HAVE SIGNED THIS SUPPLEMENTARY ACT**

**DONE IN ABUJA, THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2014**

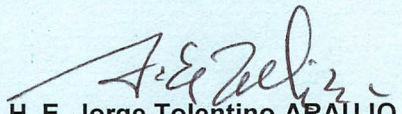
**IN SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH, FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE LANGUAGES, ALL THREE (3) TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.**



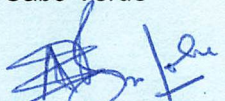
  
**H. E. Dr. Thomas Boni YAYI**  
President of the Republic of Benin



  
**H. E. Michel KAFANDO**  
Interim President of Burkina Faso

  
**H. E. Jorge Tolentino ARAUJO**  
Minister of External Relations  
For and on behalf of the President of the Republic  
of Cabo Verde

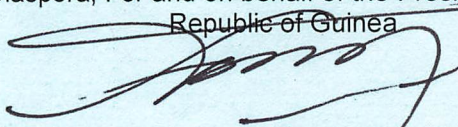
  
**H. E. Alassane OUATTARA**  
President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire


  
**Hon. Abdoulie JOBE**  
Honourable Minister of Trade, Industry  
and Employment, For and on behalf of the President of  
the Republic of The Gambia,

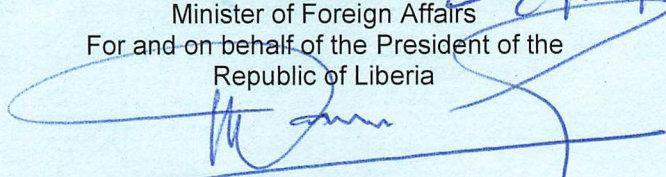
  
**H. E. John Dramani MAHAMA**  
President of the Republic of Ghana

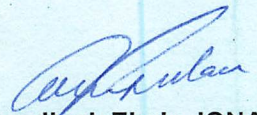
**H. E. Louceny FALL**  
Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and Guineans in  
Diaspora, For and on behalf of the President of the  
Republic of Guinea

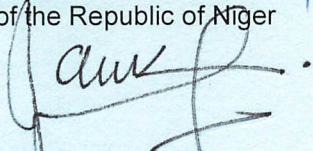
**H. E. José Mario VAZ**  
President of the Republic of Guinea Bissau

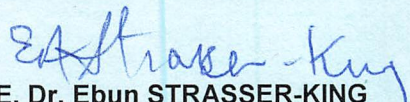
  
**H. E. Augustine Kpehe NGAFUAN**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
For and on behalf of the President of the  
Republic of Liberia

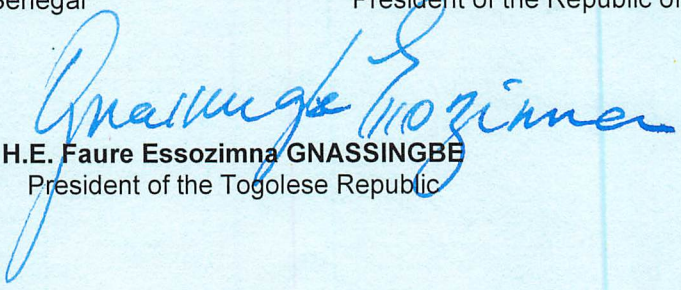
  
**H. E. Ibrahim Boubacar KEITA**  
President of the Republic of Mali

  
**H. E. Mahamadou ISSOUFOU**  
President of the Republic of Niger

  
**H. E. Dr. Goodluck Ebele JONATHAN, GCFR**  
President, Commander-in-Chief of the  
Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

  
**H.E. Mankeur NDIAYE**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese  
in Diaspora, For and on behalf of the  
President of the Republic of Senegal

  
**H. E. Dr. Ebun STRASSER-KING**  
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and  
International Cooperation, For and on behalf of the  
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

  
**H.E. Faure Essozimna GNASSINGBE**  
President of the Togolese Republic