

# Official Journal

Vol. 1

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of West African States (ECOWAS)

June 1979

English edition

## PROTOCOLS, DECISIONS & DIRECTIVES

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## A/P 1/5/79 PROTOCOL RELATING TO FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS, RESIDENCE AND ESTABLISHMENT

### THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES

RECALLING that sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States calls on Member States to ensure by stages the abolition of the obstacles to free movement of persons, services and capital;

RECALLING also that paragraph 1 of Article 27 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States confers the status of Community citizenship on the citizens of Member States, and also enjoins Member States to abolish all obstacles to freedom of movement and residence within the Community;

RECALLING further that paragraph 2 of Article 27 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States further calls on Member States to exempt Community citizens from holding visitor's visa and residence permits and allow them to work and undertake commercial and industrial activities within their territories;

CONVINCED of the need to spell out in this Protocol the various stages to be undergone to accomplish complete freedom of movement as envisaged by sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 2 of Article 2 and Article 27 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:-**

#### PART 1

### DEFINITIONS ARTICLE 1

In this Protocol:

"Treaty" means the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States;

"Council of Ministers" means the Council of Ministers established by Article 6 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States;

"Executive Secretary" means the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States;

"Commission" means the Trade, Customs, Immigration, Monetary and Payments Commission established by Article 9 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States;

"Community" means the Economic Community of West African States;

"Member States" or "Member States" means a Member State or Member States of the Economic Community of West African States;

"A citizen of the Community" means a citizen of any Member States;

"A valid travel document" means a passport or any other valid travel document establishing the identity of the holder with his photograph, issued by or on behalf of the Member State of which he is a citizen and on which endorsement by immigration and emigration authorities may be made. A valid travel document shall also include a laissez-passer issued by the Community to its officials establishing the identity of the holder.

#### PART II

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES ON MOVEMENT OF PERSONS, RESIDENCE AND ESTABLISHMENT

#### ARTICLE 2

1. The Community citizens have the right to enter, reside and establish in the territory of Member States.
2. The right of entry, residence and establishment referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be progressively established in the course of a maximum transitional period of fifteen (15) years from the definitive entry into force of this protocol by abolishing all other obstacles to free movement of persons and the right of residence and establishment.
3. The right of entry, residence and establishment which shall be established in the course of a transitional period shall be accomplished in three phases, namely:

Phase I — Right of Entry and Abolition of Visa

Phase II — right of Residence

Phase III — Right of Establishment

Upon the expiration of a maximum period of five (5) years from the definitive entry into force of this Protocol the Commission, based upon the experience gained from the implementation of the first phase as set out in Article 3 below, shall make proposals to the Council of Ministers for further liberalization towards the subsequent phases of freedom of residence and establishment of persons within the Community and these phases shall be dealt with in subsequent Annexes to this Protocol.

#### PART III

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST PHASE: ABOLITION OF VISAS AND ENTRY PERMIT

#### ARTICLE 3

1. Any citizen of the Community who wishes to enter the territory of any other Member States shall be required to possess valid travel document and international health certificate.
2. A citizen of the Community visiting any Member State for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days shall enter the territory of that Member State through the official entry point free of visa requirements. Such citizen shall, however, be required to obtain permission for an extension of stay from the appropriate authority if after such entry that citizen has cause to stay for more than ninety (90) days.

**ARTICLE 4**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3 above, Member States shall reserve the right to refuse admission into their territory Community any citizen who comes within the category of inadmissible immigrants under its laws.

**PART IV****MOVEMENT OF VEHICLES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS****ARTICLE 5**

In order to facilitate the movement of persons transported in private or commercial vehicles the following provisions shall apply:-

**1. Private Vehicles**

A private vehicle registered in the territory of a Member State may enter the territory of another Member State and remain there for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days upon presentation of the documents listed hereunder to be competent authority of that Member State:-

- (i) Valid driving licence
- (ii) Matriculation Certificate (Ownership Card) or Log Book
- (iii) Insurance Policy recognised by Member States
- (iv) International customs carnet recognised within the Community

**2. Commercial Vehicles**

A commercial vehicle registered in the territory of a Member State and carrying passengers may enter the territory of another Member State and remain there for a period not exceeding fifteen (15) days upon presentation of the documents listed hereunder to the competent authority of that Member State:-

- (i) Valid driving licence
- (ii) Matriculation Certificate (Ownership Card) or Log Book
- (iii) Insurance Policy recognised by Member States
- (iv) International customs carnet recognised within the Community.

During the period of fifteen (15) days the commercial motor vehicle shall however not engage in any commercial activities within the territory of the Member State entered.

**PART V****MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS****ARTICLE 6**

Each Member State shall deposit at the Executive Secretariat specimen of travel documents defined in Article 1 in the present Protocol with a view to communicating them to all Member States.

**ARTICLE 7**

Any dispute that may arise among Member States regarding the interpretation or application of this Protocol shall be amicably settled by direct agreement. In the event of failure to settle such disputes, the matter may be referred to the Tribunal of the Community by a party to such disputes and the decision of the Tribunal shall be final.

**ARTICLE 8**

1. Any Member State may submit proposals for the amendment or revision of this Protocol.
2. Any such proposals shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary who shall communicate them to other Member States not later than thirty days after the receipt of such proposal. Amendments or revisions shall be considered by the Council of Ministers after Member States have been given one month's notice thereof.

**ARTICLE 9**

Member States undertake to co-operate among themselves by exchanging information on such matters that are likely to affect the effective implementation of this Protocol. Such information shall also be sent to the Executive Secretary for necessary action in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty.

**ARTICLE 10**

The provisions of this Protocol shall not operate to the prejudice of citizens of the Community who are already in residence and establishment in a Member State provided they comply with the laws in general and in particular the immigration laws of that Member State

**ARTICLE 11**

1. A decision to expel any citizen of the Community from the territory of a Member State shall be notified to the citizen concerned as well as the government of which he is a citizen and the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS.
2. The expenses incurred in the expulsion of a citizen shall be borne by the Member State which expels him.
3. In case of expulsion the security of the citizen concerned as well as that of his family shall be guaranteed and his property protected and returned to him without prejudice to his obligations to third party.

- 4. In case of repatriation of a citizen of the Community from the territory of a Member State that Member State shall notify the government of the state of origin of the citizen and the Executive Secretary.
- 5. The cost of repatriation of a citizen of the Community from the territory of a Member State shall be borne by the citizen himself or in the event that he is unable to do so by the country of which he is a citizen

**ARTICLE 12**

The provisions of the present Protocol shall not affect more favourable provisions contained in agreements that have already been concluded between two or among several Member States.

**PART VI**

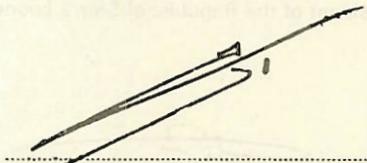
**FINAL PROVISIONS: DEPOSIT AND ENTRY INTO FORCE**

**ARTICLE 13**

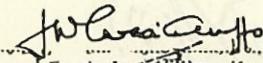
- 1. This Protocol shall enter into force provisionally upon signature by Heads of State and Government of Member States definitively upon ratification by at least seven signatory States in accordance with the constitutional procedures applicable for each signatory State.
- 2. This Protocol and all the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Executive Secretariat which shall transmit certified true copies of this Protocol to all Member States and notify them of the dates of deposits of the instruments of ratification and shall register this protocol with the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations and such organisations as the Council shall determine.
- 3. This Protocol shall be annexed to and shall form an integral part of the Treaty.

**IN FAITH WHEREOF WE THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES HAVE SIGNED THIS PROTOCOL**

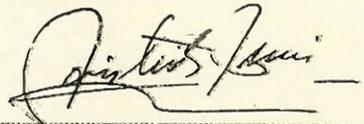
**DONE AT DAKAR THIS 29TH DAY OF MAY 1979 IN SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES, BOTH TEXT BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC**



.....  
H.E. Colonel Mathieu KEREKOU  
President of People's Republic of Benin.



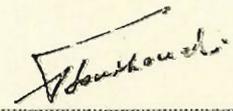
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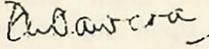
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.....  
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For and on behalf of the Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces  
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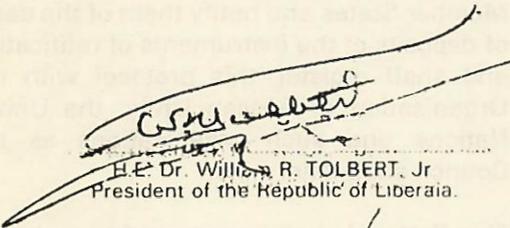
H.E. Mr. Luiz CABRAL  
President of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.



H.E. General A. Sangoule LAMIZANA  
President of the Republic of Upper Volta



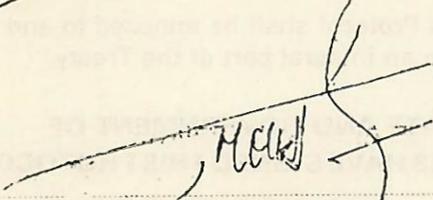
H.E. Lt. Col. Seyni KOUNTCHE  
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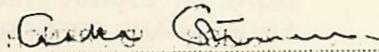
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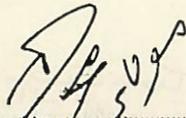
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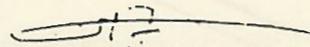
H.E. Mr. Leopold Sédar SENHOR  
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H.E. M. Moulaye MOHAMED  
Minister of Finance and Commerce  
For and on behalf of the Chairman of the  
Military Committee of National Redemption of  
the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.



H.E. General Gnassingbe EYADEMA  
President of the Republic of Togo.

**A/SPI/5/79 SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL  
OF RECTIFICATION OF THE FRENCH TEXT  
OF THE PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE  
DEFINITION OF THE CONCEPT OF  
PRODUCTS ORIGINATING FROM MEMBER  
STATES OF EDOWAS**

**THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES**

CONSIDERING that certain rectification should be made to the French text of the Protocol relating to the definition of the concept of products originating from Member States of ECOWAS signed at Lome on 5th day of November, 1976;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

**ARTICLE I**

**Definition**

The last paragraph of Article I of the French text of the Protocol relating to the definition of the concept of products originating from Member States of ECOWAS and especially defining "Value-added" is rectified below to agree with the English text:

"Value-added" means the difference between ex-factory price of the finished product including subsidies if any, less local taxes and duties, and

the c.i.f. value of the material imported from third countries and used in the production"

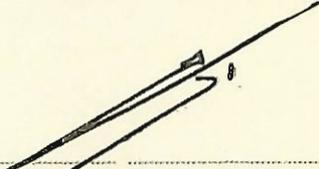
**ARTICLE II**

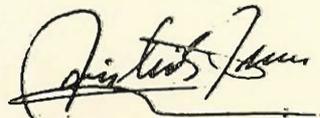
**Deposit and Entry Into Force**

1. This Supplementary Protocol of rectification shall enter into force upon signature by Heads of States and Government of Member States and definitively upon ratification by at least seven signatory States in accordance with the constitutional procedures applicable for each signatory State.
2. This Supplementary Protocol and all instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Executive Secretariat which shall transmit certified true copies of this Supplementary Protocol to all Member States and notify them of the dates of deposits of the instruments of ratification and shall register this Supplementary Protocol with the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations and such Organisations as the Council shall determine.
3. This Supplementary Protocol shall be annexed to and shall form an integral part of the Treaty.

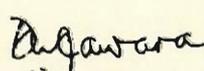
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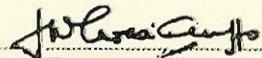
**DONE AT DAKAR THIS 29TH DAY OF MAY 1979 IN SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE  
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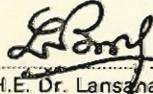
  
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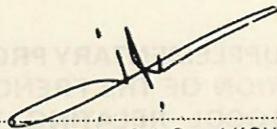
  
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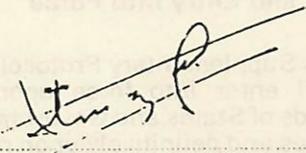
  
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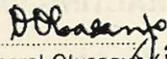
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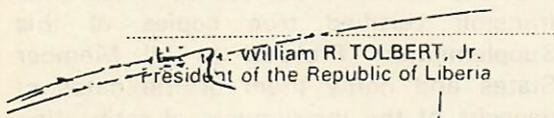
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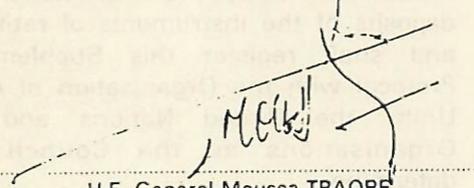
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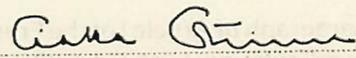
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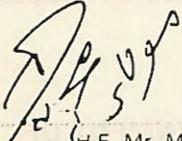
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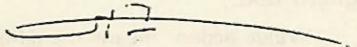
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President of the Republic of Togo.

**A/SP2/5/79 SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL AMENDING PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF THE CONCEPT OF PRODUCTS ORIGINATING FROM MEMBER STATES**

**THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES**

CONSIDERING the protocol relating to the definition of products originating from Member States and especially Article II of the Protocol;

CONVINCED that the concept of ex-factory price before tax derives from the manufacturing process and is therefore a more appropriate factor to be used as the basis for the determination of the contribution of the resources from the Community to the value of a finished product than the concept of FOB price;

DESIRING to conclude a supplementary Protocol amending the Protocol relating to the definition of products originating from Member States;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:-**

**ARTICLE I**

**Rules of Origin of Community Goods**

- (i) Article II (1c) of the Protocol is hereby amended to read as follows:-

"If the goods have been produced from material of a foreign or undetermined origin and having

- (i) Article II (1c) of the Protocol is hereby amended to read as follows:-

"If the goods have been produced from material of a foreign or undetermined origin and having received in the process of production a value added of at least 35% of the ex-factory price before tax of the finished product; and"

- (ii) Article II (3) of the Protocol is amended to read as follows:-

"Any conditions of acceptance of goods originating in Member States for Community trade may be reviewed periodically by the Council who shall also determine the elements that constitute the ex-factory price before tax of a finished product and those that constitute value added"

**ARTICLE II**

**Deposit and Entry Into Force**

- 1 This Supplementary Protocol shall enter into force provisionally upon signature by Heads of State and Government of Member States and definitively upon ratification by at least seven signatory States in accordance with the constitutional procedures applicable for each signatory State.
- 2 This Supplementary Protocol and all instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Executive Secretariat which shall transmit certified true copies of this supplementary Protocol to all Member States and notify them of the dates of deposit of the instruments of ratification and shall register this supplementary Protocol with the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations and such organisations as the Council shall determine
3. This Supplementary protocol shall be annexed to and shall form an integral part of the Treaty.

IN FAITH WHEREOF WE THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES HAVE SIGNED THIS SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

DONE AT DAKAR THIS 29TH DAY OF MAY, 1979 IN SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC

H.E. Colonel Mathieu KERKOU  
President of People's Republic of Benin.

H.E. General Frederick William Kwasi AKUFFO  
The Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic of Ghana.

H.E. Mr. Aristides PEREIRA  
President of the Republic of Cape Verde.

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For and on behalf of the Chairman of the  
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President of the Republic of Togo.

**A DEC 8/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF IMPORT DUTIES AND NON-TARIFF BARRIERS**

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

MINDFUL of the Treaty establishing the Economic Community of West African States and especially its Articles 5, 12, 13 and 18.

**DECIDES**

- Article 1 — Customs duties and any other taxes with equivalent effect on, and non-tariff barriers to goods of Community origin shall be consolidated from 28 May, 1979
- Article 2 — The Consolidation shall have the following effects:
- (i) During the two-year period beginning from 28 May 1979 a Member State may not be required to reduce or eliminate import duties however, Member States shall not impose any new duties and taxes nor increase existing ones.
  - (ii) There shall be no creation of new Non-Tariff Barriers and those in existence shall not be increased.
- Article 3 — Member States shall send to the Executive Secretariat, not later than 1st July 1979, all relevant information on import duties as defined in Article 13 (1) of the Treaty as well as on existing Non-Tariff Barriers so as to enable the relevant Institutions of the Community to study the issues involved and formulate a programme for the progressive elimination of customs duties and all other charges with equivalent effect and non-tariff barriers.
- Article 4 — 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 respective Member States.

Done at Dakar this 29th day of May 1979 in single original in the English and French languages; both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority,  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DEC 9/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES ON THE RECTIFICATION OF THE FRENCH TEXT OF THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF ARTICLE 1 OF THE PROTOCOL ON ORIGINATING PRODUCTS TO CONFORM WITH THE ENGLISH TEXT**

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

MINDFUL of Article 5 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and determining its composition and functions.

**DECIDES**

- Article 1 — The last paragraph 1 of the French version of the Protocol relating to the definition of the concept of products originating from Member States should read as follows:-
- On entend par valeur ajoutée la différence entre le prix ex-usine hors taxes du produit fini y comprise les subventions et la valeur CAF des matières importées de pays tiers utilisées dans le processus de réduction
- Article 2 — This Decision takes effect upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of the respective Member States.

Done at Dakar on this 29th day of May, 1979 in single original in the English and French languages; both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DEC 10/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES RELATING TO THE MODIFICATION OF ARTICLE II OF THE PROTOCOL ON ORIGINATING PRODUCTS**

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

MINDFUL of Article 5 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government, its composition and functions;

**DECIDES**

- Article 1. Article II of the Protocol relating to the concept of products originating from Member States is interpreted to mean:
- (1) The promotion of trade in goods originating in Member States as well as the collective economic development of the Community requires indigenous ownership and participation. Goods shall be accepted as originating in Member States for purposes of trade liberalisation if:
- (a) they have been wholly produced as defined in Article V of this Protocol; or
- (b) they have been produced in a Member State other than by any of the operations and processes listed in Article IV of this Protocol or with the material from a foreign or undetermined origin used in the process of production of goods whose CIF value does not exceed 60% of the total cost of the material used in the process of production or with the raw material of Community origin whose value must not in any case be less than 40% of the total cost of the material used in the process of production or with the raw material used in the production; or
- (c) If the goods have been produced from material of a foreign or undetermined origin and having received in the process of production a value added of at least 35% of the ex-factory price of the finished product; and
- (2) If the Enterprises producing these goods attain a desirable level of indigenous ownership and participation. The Commission shall, on the basis of appropriate statistics, make proposals to the Council of Ministers to determine orientations and levels relating to ownership and participation.
- Article 2 - The ECOWAS Council of Ministers shall determine the elements that constitute the ex-factory price of a finished product as well as those of "Value Added"
- Article 3 - This Decision comes into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of the respective Member States.

Done at Dakar on 29th May, 1979 in single original in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DEC 11/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES ON ARTICLES II,2, VII AND VIII OF THE PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF THE CONCEPT OF PRODUCTS**

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

MINDFUL of Article 5 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government, its composition and functions;

**DECIDES**

- Article 1 The application of the provisions of Articles II,2,VII and VIII of the Protocol relating to the definition of the concept of products originating from Member States shall remain in force.
- Article 2 The Council of Ministers and the Executive Secretary are directed to undertake the necessary in-depth studies with a view to making recommendations to the Authority that will permit the effective application of Articles II,2,VII and VIII of the Protocol relating to the definition of the concept of products originating from Member States.

Done at Dakar on 29th May, 1979 in single original in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DEC 12/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES RELATING TO THE PROGRAMME FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK WITHIN THE COMMUNITY**

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

CONSCIOUS of the compelling necessity for the development of the Telecommunications Network within the Economic Community of West African States;

TAKES note of the Report on the state of the Telecommunications Network in the Member States of the Economic Community of West African States; and

REQUESTS the Executive Secretary to take all necessary measures required for the execution of the Programme for the Improvement and Extension of the Telecommunications Network within the Economic Community of West African States.

Done at Dakar on 29th May 1979 in single original in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DEC 13/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES ON THE RESTRUCTURING, RELATIONSHIPS AND OPERATIONAL MODES OF THE COMMUNITY'S EXECUTIVE INSTITUTIONS**

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

MINDFUL OF THE TREATY establishing the Economic Community of West African States and the Protocol relating to the Fund for Compensation, Co-operation and Development appended thereto and more specifically, Article 4, 5 and 8 of the Treaty and Article 24, 25, 26 and 28 of the said Protocol.

**DECIDES**

**Article 1.** The provisions of Article 8(9) of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States relating to the administrative responsibilities of the Executive Secretary are hereby upheld and meant to be applied to the letter of the law.

**Article 2.** In the event that any provisions of the Treaty and the Protocols establishing the Community and its institutions are found to contravene the provisions of Article 8(a) of the Treaty, the necessary amendments shall be made accordingly in conformity with the letter and spirit of Article 8(a) of the Treaty.

**Article 3.** In particular, Article 4, paragraph 1 sub-paragraph (e) of the Treaty should be amended to include the Fund as one of the institutions of the Community. Likewise Articles 24, 25, 26 and 28 of the protocol relating to the Fund for Compensation, Co-operation and Development should be amended in conformity with the provisions of Article 1 above.

**Article 4.** Furthermore, the relationship of the ECOWAS Fund for Compensation, Co-operation and Development to the ECOWAS Secretariat as well as the concept and operational modes of the Fund shall be the same as obtains in the West African Economic Community (CEAO) and the Council de l'Entente.

Done at Dakar the 29th day of May 1979 in single original in English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DEC 14/5/79 DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES RELATING TO DRAFT DEFENCE PACTS**

The Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS.

- Having regard to the preamble and Article 2 of ECOWAS Treaty stating the objectives of the Community;
- Convinced that peace, security and territorial integrity are the basic conditions for political stability, economic and social progress of ECOWAS Member States;
- Mindful of the Non-Agression Pact signed by Member States in Lagos on the 22nd of April, 1978;
- Convinced of the necessity to supplement the said Non-Agression Pact with a mutual defence Agreement:

**DECIDES**

1. To take note of the draft defence agreements submitted by the Government of the Republic Senegal and the Government of the Republic Togo; and
2. To direct that the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Executive Secretary of the Community convene a meeting of Chiefs of Staff of the national armies of ECOWAS Member States, Ministers responsible for Defence, Foreign Affairs, Finance and Economic Planning/Development, to consider these drafts and submit an ECOWAS draft Defence Pact to the next Summit of Heads of State and Government.

Done at Dakar on 29 May 1979 in single original in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman

**A/DIR 1/5/79 DIRECTIVE OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AND THE RIGHT OF RESIDENCE AND ESTABLISHMENT**

WHEREAS Article 27 of the ECOWAS Treaty stipulates that Member States shall take measures to ensure the free movement of Community citizens and the right of residence and establishment; and

WHEREAS the Authority of Heads of State and Government has adopted and duly signed the Protocol relating to the free movement of Persons and the Right of Residence and Establishment.

**NOW THEREFORE THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT DIRECTS:**

1. All Member States should take all possible measures to expedite the ratification and implementation of the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons and the Right of Residence and Establishment.
2. The Executive Secretary should convene a group of legal experts to examine and propose a more acceptable definition of the concept of Community citizen and report within one year.
3. Special counters should be created by all Member States at each official Entry Point for the purpose of handling the necessary entry formalities of Nationals and citizens of other Member States together.
4. The competent authorities of all Member States should endeavour to co-operate among themselves in matters involving citizens of other Member States residing in their respective territories.
5. Each Diplomatic Mission of all Member States within the Community should register its nationals residing in its country of accreditation.
6. This Directive comes into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of the respective Member States.

Done at Dakar on 29th May 1979 in single original in the English and French Languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Authority  
**Leopold Sedar Senghor**  
The Chairman