

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

FIFTH MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY OF  
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

COTONOU, MAY 28 - 29, 1982

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) held its Fifth Ordinary Annual Meeting in Cotonou, the People's Republic of Benin on 28th and 29th May, 1982.

The meeting was attended by the following Heads of State and Government and accredited representatives:

H.E. Colonel Mathieu KEREKOU

President of the People's Republic of Benin

H.E. Felix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY

President of the Republic of Ivory Coast

H.E. Flight Lieutenant Jerry John RAWLINGS

Chairman, Provisional National Defence Council  
of the Republic of Ghana

H.E. Ahmed Sekou TOURE

President of the People's Revolutionary  
Republic of Guinea

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H.E. Colonel Saye ZFRBO

President of the Military Committee for Redress  
for National Progress,

Head of State of the Republic of Upper Volta

H.E. Samuel Kanyon DOE

Chairman of the People's Redemption Council and  
Head of State of the Republic of Liberia

H.E. Mohamed Khouna OULD HAIDALLA

President of the Military Committee of  
National Salvation

Head of State of the Islamic Republic of  
Mauritania

H.E. Colonel Seyni KOUNTCHE

President of the Supreme Military Council  
Head of State of the Republic of Niger

H.E. Alhaji Shehu SHAGARI

President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

H.E. Abdou DIOUF

President of the Republic of Senegal

H.E. Dr. Siaka STEVENS

President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

H.E. General Gnassingbe EYADEMA

President of the Republic of Togo

Hon. Brigade Commander Pedro PIRES

Prime Minister of the Republic of Cape Verde

Hon. Victor Saude MARIA

Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Council

Prime Minister of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau



Hon. Dr. Momodou S. K. MANNEH

Minister of Economic Planning and Industrial  
Development of the Republic of The Gambia

Hon. Drissa KEITA

Minister of Finance and Commerce of the  
Republic of Mali

Representatives of the following Organisations also  
attended the Summit as observers:

- |                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| - BCEAO          | - AGC    |
| - FAO            | - OATUU  |
| - MULPOC/ECA     | - ITU    |
| - MRU            | - OAU    |
| - CLUB D'AFRIQUE | - CEA    |
| - UAPT           | - UNESCO |
| - UNCTAD         | - UNIDO  |
| - ADB            | - UNDP   |
| - CCCE           |          |

In his opening address, His Excellency Colonel Mathieu KEREKOU, President of the People's Republic of Benin welcomed his Colleagues and wished the Fifth Summit success in its deliberations. He expressed the hope that Member States will fulfil their obligations more faithfully and emphasised the compelling need for them to strictly keep to the task of realising the objectives of the Community. He urged the Authority to take stock of the progress made since the last meeting in Freetown and hoped that they will all assume the collective responsibility of ensuring the growth and survival of ECOWAS.





The outgoing Chairman of the Authority, His Excellency Dr. Siaka STEVENS, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone reviewed the activities of the Community for the year. He indicated that this will be a decisive year for the Community's work programme.

He was particularly happy to note that the Community had taken great strides during the year especially by adopting an acceptable definition of Community Citizenship which will go a long way to facilitate the implementation of the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and of Establishment.

The outgoing Chairman also added that the achievements so far recorded should encourage us to make more effort to achieve the objectives of the Community as soon as possible.

He expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Community to the Executive Secretary and his Staff for the efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties during the year.

#### ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

The President of the People's Republic of Benin, His Excellency Colonel Mathieu KEREROU was unanimously elected Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State and Government for the year 1982/83.

In an address to the Summit, His Excellency Alhaji Shehu SHAGARI, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, among other things, recommended the adoption by the Community of a target of self-sufficiency in food production within the next five years. Given the agricultural potential in the



sub-region, he was convinced that the Community could achieve this objective if given the necessary political support. Finally, he called on his colleagues to take stock of the achievements and the problems encountered so far in order to give new, clear and concise directives on what should be done next.

The text of this speech is attached herewith.

The Authority heard the reports of the Executive Secretary and the Council of Ministers, and took the following decisions:

1. Decision A/DEC.1/5/82 relating to the Creation of ECOWAS Energy Resources Development Fund.
2. Decision A/DEC.2/5/82 relating to the Declaration of the 1983 - 1993 Decade as "Reforestation Decade".
3. Decision A/DEC 3/5/82 relating to the ECOWAS Energy Policy
4. Decision A/DEC.4/5/82 relating to the Adoption of an ECOWAS Agricultural Development Strategy
5. Decision A/DEC.5/5/82 relating to the Production of Selected Seeds and the Choice of Production Stations.
6. Decision A/DEC.6/5/82 relating to the Production of Selected Cattle Species and the Choice of Breeding Centres
7. Decision A/DEC.7/5/82 relating to Solidarity among Member States during International Negotiations on Primary Agricultural Products
8. Decision A/DEC.8/5/82 amending the Provisions of Paragraph 1 of Article 27 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States.







9. On the Suspension of the Application of the Provisions of Article 20 of the ECOWAS Treaty relating to the most favoured nation, the Authority directed that the Ministerial Committee on Derogation be convened to re-examine the matter. The proposals of the said Committee shall be submitted to the Council of Ministers which will meet in November 1982.
10. Decision A/DEC.10/5/82 relating to the Application of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons and the Public Enlightenment Programme
11. Decision A/DEC.11/5/82 relating to the Award of ECOWAS Scholarship, the ECOWAS Student Exchange Programme and the Establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on the Equivalence of Certificates within ECOWAS.
12. Decision A/DEC.12/5/82 relating to the Cultural Exchange Programme.
13. Decision A/DEC.13/5/82 relating to the Organisation of Sporting Activities at the level of the Economic Community of West African States.
14. Decision A/DEC.14/5/82 relating to the ECOWAS Prize.
15. Decision relating to the Construction of the Headquarters of the Institutions by the Community.

The Authority decided that the Community be responsible for financing the construction of the headquarters of the Institutions; that of the Fund must begin with immediate effect.



Protocols and Conventions

1. Protocol A/P3/5/82 relating to the Definition of Community Citizen.
2. Protocol A/P1/5/82 relating to the Creation of the ECOWAS Brown Card on Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance
3. Convention A/P2/5/82 regulating Inter-State Road Transportation between ECOWAS Member States
4. Convention A/P4/5/82 relating to Inter-State Road Transit of Goods
5. Convention A/P5/5/82 relating to Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters.

Date and Venue of the Sixth Ordinary Session of the Authority

The Authority decided to hold its sixth ordinary session from May 27 to 29, 1983 at Conakry.

DONE AT COTONOU ON 29TH MAY, 1982

THE AUTHORITY



ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

FIFTH MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY OF  
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

COTONOU, 28 - 29 MAY 1982

VOTE OF THANKS

The Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States holding its Fifth Ordinary Annual Session in Cotonou, People's Republic of Benin from 28 to 29 May 1982, wishes to express its profound gratitude to the outgoing Chairman of the Community, His Excellency President Siaka STEVENS, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, for the able manner in which he directed the affairs of the Community.

The Authority of Heads of State and Government also wishes to express its profound gratitude to His Excellency Colonel Mathieu KERÉKOU, President of the People's Republic of Benin, the National Executive Council and People of Benin for the typically warm African hospitality that has been showered on them and the excellent facilities placed at the disposal of the Executive Secretariat of the Community in the organisation of this Summit and the meetings that preceded it.

DONE AT COTONOU, 29TH MAY 1982

THE AUTHORITY