THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY 1983

FINAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Council of Ministers held its thirteenth session from 5 to 7 May 1983 in the "2 Octobre" Conference Hall of the "Palais du Peuple" in Conakry, People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.
- 2. The following Member States were represented at this session:
 - BENIN
 - CAPE VERDE
 - IVORY COAST
 - GAMBIA
 - GUINEA
 - GUINEA BISSAU
 - UPPER VOLTA
 - LIBERIA
 - MALI
 - MAURITANIA
 - NIGER
 - NIGERIA
 - SENEGAL
 - SIERRA LEONE
 - TOGO

The following organisations were also represented at this session as observers : CEAO, MRU, FAO.

3. The List of Participants is attached as an appendix to this Report.

OPENING CEREMONY

- The session was opened by His Excellency, Dr ABDOULAYE TOURE, Member of the National Executive Council and of the Central Committee of the Party State of Guinea, Minister of External Affairs, representing the Head of State, His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou TOURE, Leader of the Revolution, Secretary-General of the Party State of Guinea. After welcoming the Ministers, delegates and observers, the Minister, in his speech stressed the particularly difficult economic situation of today which benefits only the industrialised powers, whose only concern is to maintain their privileges through the exploitation of the natural resources of the developing countries. To cope with this situation, he declared that the only weapon to use against these economic powers for the promotion of the development and economies of Member States is concerted action through the constant strengthening of our community organisation, ECOWAS. This means necessarily, that each Member State must give up a part of its sovereignty, no matter how small.
- 5. Finally, the Honourable Minister expressed the wish that the conclusions of this session would speed up the present slow awakening of ECOWAS so that the Community can at last embark upon the implementation phase of its projects.
- 6. In his speech, the Honourable Minister of Finance of the People's Republic of Benin, Mr. Isidore AMOUSSOU, outgoing Chairman of the Council of Ministers, gave a brief summary of the activities of the Community during his tenure of office, which centred on the following issues:
 - the need to ensure the effective take-off of ECOWAS through the implementation in Member States of the numerous acts and decisions of the authorities of the Community,
 - the need to cooperate and act in concert by pooling resources and strengths of Member States in order to better resolve the present world-wide problems which confront them individually.

7. The Honourable Minister concluded his presentation by urging his colleagues whenever necessary to cooperate in the spirit of responsibility and solidarity which should characterise the life of our Community.

ELECTION OF BUREAU

8. The following Bureau was elected:

- CHAIRMAN : GUINEA - RAPPORTEURS : LIBERIA

TOGO

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- 9. After certain amendments, the provisional agenda presented by the Executive Secretariat was adopted as follows:
 - 1. Election of Bureau
 - 2. Adoption of Provisional Agenda
 - 3. Summary report on Community Activities May 1982 May 1983:
 - Implementation of Decisions by Member States
 - Report of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committees
 - 4. Report of Executive Secretary
 - 5. Report of the Financial Controller
 - 6. Report of Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Commission
 - Report of Ministers of Agriculture, and of Forestry and Water Resources
 - 8. Report of Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports
 - 9. Report of Meeting of Ministers of Planning
 - 10. Report of Meeting of Committee of Governors of Central Banks
 - 11. Report of External Auditors
 - 12. Report of Board of Directors of ECOWAS Fund
 - 13. Separation Allowance/Contract Gratuities

- 14. Tenure of Office of External Auditor
- 15. Problems relating to the Application of the Protocol on Right of Residence and Establishment
- 16. Any other Business

CONCLUSIONS OF DELIBERATIONS

Implementation of Decisions by Member States (Item 3)

National Structures

- 10. Need for creating national structures to ensure follow-up of ECOWAS activities at the national level was emphasised. It was decided that an appeal should be launched at the level of the Authority to ensure that every Member State creates this structure. Expenses of national structures should be borne by Member States themselves. It is important to stress the need for having a highly placed official to handle ECOWAS affairs at national level if national structures are to be operationally effective.
- 11. A specific unit should be set up at the ECOWAS Secretariat to monitor implementation of Community Acts and Decisions and to liaise with national structures.
- 12. Information on the organisation of each national structure should be communicated to the Executive Secretariat.

REPORT OF MINISTERIAL AD HOC COMMITTEES: (Item 3) Harmonisation of Trade Liberalisation Schemes

13. The report of the Ministerial Ad Hoc Committee on this subject was adopted after prolonged discussion and the following amendments:

Paragraph 10 of the report was amended as follows:

Paragraph 10: "After discussions on the report of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee, the Council unanimously reaffirmed that the objective of a "customs union" adopted by ECOWAS should be the only one approved for trade liberalisation in the West African sub-region.

In this regard, the Council of Ministers recommends to the Authority:

- i) that a strong appeal be made to the appropriate authorities of CEAO to merge the objectives, aspirations and programmes of CEAO with those of ECOWAS with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts and facilitating total solidarity towards the creation of the Customs Union and economic integration envisaged under the ECOWAS Treaty;
- that the necessary mandate be given to the Executive Secretariat to commence without delay, a programme of implementation of existing decisions among those Member States that subscribe to the objectives and ideals set out under the requisite decisions already adopted".

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, THE FINANCIAL CONTROLLER AND THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR (Items 4, 5 and 11)

- 14. After these reports had been presented, Council took note of the reports of the Executive Secretary, Financial Controller and the External Auditor.
- 15. As regards the proposal of the Financial Controller that the External Auditor's report be presented to Council in November, Council decided that this problem should be resolved by the Chairman of Council in consultation with the Executive Secretary, the Managing Director of the Fund, the Financial Controller and the External Auditor.
- 16. On the subject of the remuneration of the External Auditor, Council confirmed the mandate it had given to the Chairman during its November 1982 session in Cotonou to fix the conditions of the Auditor's remuneration (Decision c/DEC7/11/82) in consultation with the Executive Secretary and the Financial Controller. For this purpose, Senegal shall send full information on the conditions for the remuneration of the External Auditors as obtains in other international organisations.

TENURE OF OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR (Item 14)

17. In order to make the appointment of all future statutory appointees of the institutions of the Community coincide with the expiry of the tenure of office of those currently employed, Council recommended to the Authority to renew the tenure of office of the External Auditors until May 1984.

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION OF THE PROTOCOL ON RIGHT OF RESIDENCE AND ESTABLISHMENT (ITEM 15)

18. Council directed the Executive Secretary to call a meeting of the Technical Commission on Immigration to examine the problems faced in the implementation of the Protocol and the move to the second phase - which will become due in the next one and a half years. Furthermore, Council appealed to all Member States to ensure that the said Protocol is effectively applied.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCE (Item 13)

19. The action taken in paying separation allowances to officials who are still in the service of the two institutions of the community was considered irregular and Council re-affirmed its decision of May 1982 forbidding such payments.

From now on, the Chairman, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary and the Financial Controller, shall ensure that no such payment is made. For this purpose, the Executive Secretary shall make proposals, translating into reality the wishes of Council on this subject.

20. Payment of separation allowance should be made only at the end of an official's service.

Due account will be taken at the time of the wrongful payments that have been made.

21. If the official leaves as a result of fraud, he will be paid nothing; the official shall refund any such sums already paid to him.

REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COMMISSION (Item 6)

i) Report of the Telecommunications sub-commission

22. Following the introduction of the report by the Chairman of the sub-commission, Council adopted it together with the recommendations and directives annexed to it.

ii) Report of the Transport Sub-Commission

23. The Chairman of the sub-commission introduced the report which was adopted. Council however mandated the Executive Secretariat to undertake the study on the ways and means of implementing the toll system envisaged and to submit the conclusions of the study through the appropriate commission to its November 1983 session. It was also decided to replace the expression "National Office" by "National Bureau" in the English text.

Regarding the 1st August 1983 deadline for the establishment of National Bureaux in the Member States, a delegation indicated that it will clarify its position (after consultation with the country's Insurance Companies) before the meeting of the Authority of Heads of State and Government in Conakry, May 1983.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER RESOURCES (Item 7)

24. The report was introduced by the Executive Secretariat and adopted together with the recommendations annexed to it.

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF YOUTH AND SPORTS (Item 8)

25. The out-going Chairman of the Council of Ministers informed Council of the results of the proceedings of the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports held in Cotonou, People's Republic of Benin from 14 to 15 April 1983.

- 26. As regards the organisation of ECOWAS Games and the functioning of the Conference, Council was requested to make its views known regarding the financial implications of these games.
- 27. Council not being in possession of the relevant information on the matter decided to meet two days before the Authority of Heads of State and Government in May 1983 to consider it. The Executive Secretariat was therefore requested to submit to Council for consideration, the report of the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS OF PLANNING (Item 9)

28. This report submitted by the Executive Secretariat was adopted by Council together with the recommendations annexed to it.

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF GOVERNORS OF CENTRAL BANKS (Item 10)

29. This report was not available. Council agreed to include the item on its Agenda for the meeting to be held two days before the Summit in May 1983.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ECOWAS FUND (Item 12)

30. The said report was submitted by the Managing Director of the Fund and was adopted by Council.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Item 16)

- 31. Under this item, the following points were considered:
 - i) A delegation reminded the Executive Secretariat about its request relating to the organisation of a Seminar for Member States on the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Programme. The Secretariat informed Council that the said Seminar would be held during the second half of 1983.
 - ii) That same delegation also raised the point that according to the Council decision in November 1982,

Member States were to be informed about the vacant posts in the Institutions of the Community.

The Executive Secretariat assured Council that every effort would be made to communicate as soon as possible the necessary information to Member States.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION OF COUNCIL

32. Council decided to hold its next meeting on 25 May, 1983 at Conakry.

CLOSING SESSION

33. In his closing speech, the Chairman of Council thanked Honourable Ministers and Heads of Delegation for the high quality of the proceedings. In addition, he stressed the need to make a greater effort to infuse the necessary dynamism into ECOWAS to promote the Welfare of our peoples.

In conclusion, he expressed his profound gratitude to the outgoing Chairman, Col. Isidore AMOUSSOU, Honourable Minister of Finance of the People's Republic of BENIN.

Done at CONAKRY, this 7th day of May, 1983.

FOR THE COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

HONOURABLE DR. MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

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13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

VOTE OF THANKS

The 13th Session of the ECOWAS Council of Ministers meeting in Conakry from 5 to 7 May 1983 wishes to express its profound gratitude to His Excellency AHMED SEKOU TOURE, Supreme Leader of the Revolution, Secretary-General of the Party-State, President of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, to the Government and People of Guinea for the authentically African hospitality and for the facilities, human as well as material, placed at its disposal for the success of its deliberations.

THE COUNCIL

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/REC 1/5/83 RECOMMENDATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL AUTONOMY

OF TELECOMMUNICATION ADMINISTRATIONS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

HAVING examined the report of the meeting of the Telecommunications Sub-commission, held from 14 to 19 April, 1983 in Conakry,

NOTING with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the PANAFTEL Network for West Africa;

DESIROUS of ensuring the profitability of the important investments made by each Member State;

CONSCIOUS of the limited resources of the different National Administrations and of the difficult international economic situation;

NOTING multiple problems obstructing the normal functioning of the maintenance in particular of links already established and in general of all telecommunications installations in use in the different states; and

HAVING analysed all solutions likely to improve and maintain at a satisfactory level the availability of inter-state links;

RECOGNISING that the planning, organising and execution of a good maintenance require above all a permanent availability of funds for each Administration;

CONSIDERING the highly successful results obtained by the sister Administrations of the sub-region who have experienced

autonomous financial management;

CONSIDERING that multinational financing institutions contributing to development projects, particularly Telecommunications projects require that the borrowing organisation has firancial autonomy for a better assessment of their capacity hor indebtedness.

HEREBY RECOMMENDS TO ALL MEMBER STATES :

To study the possibilities and modalities of re-organising their Posts and Telecommunications services in order to ensure that the Telecommunications Administrations have at their disposal as soon as possible an autonomous financial and administrative management.

To Institutionalize as much as possible Financial Autonomy for Posts and Telecommunications Administrations.

> DONE AT CONAKRY, THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983 IN ONE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC

> > FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE (DR) MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

THE CHAIRMAN

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/RES 1/5/83 RESOLUTION RELATING TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAMME

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONSCIOUS of the need to define clear programmes for the implementation of the regional development policy;

AFTER having considered the report of the First Meeting of Ministers of Planning;

HEREBY RESOLVES TO PROPOSE TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT:

The adoption of the following development cooperation programme:

I. SHORT-TERM POLICY MEASURES

- exchange of information on important industrial investment projects;
- joint studies with a view to identifying bilateral or multilateral projects;
- search for greater and better technical cooperation through the provision of qualified manpower and training facilities.

II. MEDIUM-TERM POLICY MEASURES

- implementation of identified bilateral or multilateral projects;
- harmonisation of promotional measures for investments and industrial development plans;
- nationalisation of existing industries in the sub-region through specialisation;

- contribution to maximum use of local raw materials and other natural resources, and to the effective economic development of Member States;
- close cooperation in the field of technology development, including training, technical assistance as well as exchange and dissemination of research results.

LONG-TERM POLICY MEASURES III.

- financing of research projects on the transfer and development of new technology;
- formulation of policies and strategies for the development of heavy industries in the ECOWAS sub-region.

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FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE (DR) MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

THE CHAIRMAN

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/RES 2/5/83 RESOLUTION RELATING TO REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION POLICY

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

- CONSCIOUS of the fact that the process of sub-regional integration presupposes a regional approach to development which involves the integration of markets as well as physical integration;
- AWARE that policies and programmes for the integration of the economies of the sub-region would not be complete without the establishment of an ECOWAS Industrial base;

HEREBY RESOLVES TO RECOMMEND TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT:

- 1. The adoption by the Community of a regional approach to industrial development. Such a regional industrial policy should give priority to industries which contribute, within an integrated framework, to the modernisation and development of the following sectors:
 - i) rural sector (agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing) in order to achieve self-sufficiency in food and the raising of the standard of living of the rural population;
 - ii) transport and communications infrastructure;
 - iii) natural resources (including water resources)
 - iv) energy.

This scheme presupposes the establishment of an industrial base through the promotion of intermediate and capital goods industries on the basis of specialisation by each or groups of Member States in given production lines.

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> > FOR THE COUNCIL / prof

HONOURABLE (DR) MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

THE CHAIRMAN

13TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/RES 3/5/83 RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ADOPTION AND

IMPLEMENTATION OF A SINGLE TRADE LIBERALISATION

SCHEME FOR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS ORIGINATING FROM

MEMBER STATES OF THE COMMUNITY

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of the request for derogation from the application of the provisions of Article 20 of the ECOWAS Treaty made by CEAO and MRU;

CONSIDERING that the provisions of Article 20 on the most favoured nation treatment enjoins each ECOWAS Member State to extend any tariff concessions granted to a third State to other ECOWAS Member States;

CONSIDERING Decision N^O C/DEC 3/11/81 of 26 November, 1981 on studies to be undertaken for the harmonisation of Trade Liberalisation Mechanisms of ECOWAS, CEAO and MRU;

MINDFUL of the results of the deliberations of the meetings of Experts and Chief Executives of the three Organisations held in Ouagadougou on the 4th and 7th March, 1983;

MINDFUL of the difference in the objectives of the Treaties of CEAO and ECOWAS;

MINDFUL of the difficulty of harmonising the Liberalisation Schemes of the two Organisations as a result of these divergencies;

MINDFUL of the provisions of Articles 12 and 13 of the Treaty establishing ECOWAS;

CONSIDERING that, in order to avoid delays in the implementation of the Trade Liberalisation Programme, a strong political decision needs to be taken at the highest level as regards the objectives of the Community;

CONSIDERING the need for solidarity among Member States to work together towards the creation of a Customs Union;

CONSIDERING the imperative need for applying a single Trade Liberalisation Scheme within the Sub-Region;

HEREBY RESOLVES TO PROPOSE TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT,

- 1. To make a strong appeal to the appropriate Authorities of CEAO to merge the aims, aspirations and programmes of CEAO with those of ECOWAS with a view to avoiding duplication of efforts and facilitating total solidarity towards creation of the Customs Union and Economic Integration envisaged under the ECOWAS Treaty;
- 2. To give the appropriate mandate to the Executive Secretariat to commence, without delay, a programme of implementation of existing decisions among those Member States that subscribe to the ideals and objectives set out under requisite decisions already adopted;
- 3. To request all Member States to implement the Trade Liberalisation Scheme of ECOWAS in respect of Originating Industrial Products with the following modifications.

1. TRADE COOPERATION OBJECTIVE

In view of the various disparties existing among the countries of the Sub-region, total Trade Liberalisation without the rectification of such disparities would adversely affect certain countries without promoting trade or enhancing the economic development of the sub-region. However, because of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action, it is necessary to retain the ultimate objective of Customs Union within the Sub-region if West Africa is to respect the provisions of the Continental Programme.

2. TRADE LIBERALISATION SCHEME

a) Rules of Origin:

The equity participation ratio should be modified as follows:

May 1983 : 20%
May 1986 : 40%
May 1989 : 51%

The earlier ratio it will be recalled was as follows:

May 1981 : 20% May 1983 : 35% May 1989 : 51%

b) Classification of Countries

The countries of the sub-region should be classified into three groups using cumulatively the following criteria:

- the level of industrial development
- the importance of customs revenue in the national budget of the Member States
- problems resulting from lack of accessibility (i.e. transportation problems pertaining particularly to island and land-locked countries).

It is proposed that for the purpose of Sub-regional trade, the countries of the Sub-region should be classified as follows:

GROUP I: CAPE-VERDE, GUINEA-BISSAU, THE GAMBIA,
UPPER VOLTA, MALI, MAURITANIA and NIGER

GROUP II : BENIN, GUINEA, LIBERIA, SIERRA LEONE and TOGO

GROUP III : IVORY COAST, GHANA, NIGERIA and SENEGAL

c) CLASSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS

The following criteria were agreed upon for the selection of priority industrial products which should be accelerated tariff elimination.

- i) the products should be manufactured by industries established in the Sub-region and must fall under the agreed priority industrial sectors.
- ii) the said products should be given preferential treatment either because of social considerations (food, housing, health and hygiene) or economic considerations (contribution to industrialisation, job creation, value added or impact on the economies of the States of the Sub-region.
- iii) the products should satisfy in all case the rules of origin.

d) THE PERIOD OF TOTAL LIBERALISATION OF TRADE

Considering the provisions of the Lagos Plan of Action which envisages the setting up of an African Common Market by the year 2000 to be preceded by the setting up of Sub-regional Common Market by the year 1980, a ten year period with effect from May 1983 was decided upon for the total liberalisation to trade among the States of the Sub-region.

e) TIME TABLE FOR TARIFF LIBERALISATION

In the light of the above, the following schedule is proposed for the elimination of tariffs.

TARIFF LIBERALISATION TIME TABLE

| | COUNTRY G | PRIORITY INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS P1 | NON PRIORITY INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS P2 |
|-----|--|--|--|
| G1: | The second secon | 8 years on the basis 12.5% reduction each year | 10 years on the basis of 10% reduction each year |
| G2: | | 6 years on the basis of 16.66% reduction each year | *8 years on the basis of 12.5% reduction each year |
| G3: | IVORY COAST, GHANA, NIGERIA, SENEGAL | 4 years on the basis of 25% reduction each year | \$6 years on the basis of 16.66% reduction each year |

3. SUPPORTING MEASURES FOR TRADE LIBERALISATION PROGRAMME

In order to reduce any possible adverse effects of the Trade Liberalisation programme, the following supporting measures should be implemented.

SUPPORTING MEASURES

SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

- 1. Compensation scheme
- 2. Determination of starting rates for tariff reduction
- 3. Establishment of a Non-Tariff Barrier's Liberalisation Scheme

MEDIUM-TERM ACTIONS

- 4. Establishment of a Common External Tariff
- 5. A study on alternative sources of budget financing for Member States
- 6. A study on the establishment of a West African Trade Development Bank

- 7. A study on the establishment of Export Credit Insurance system in West Africa
- 8. A study on the establishment of a West African Standards Board
- 9. A study on payments problems in intra-West African Trade
- 10. Working out of a coordinating programme for the development of the Sub-region.

LONG-TERM ACTIONS

11. A study on Social and Economic Cost of Integration (problem of resource allocation).

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FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE (DR) MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE
THE CHAIRMAN

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/DEC 4/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO THE DRAWING UP OF PROJECT PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

- MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;
- CONSCIOUS of the need to define clear programmes for the implementation of the regional development policy;
- AFTER having considered the report of the First Meeting of Ministries of Planning;
- RECOGNISING the need for proper articulation and coordination of project proposals from Member States in various sectors;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

- The following procedure is hereby adopted for drawing up project programme within the framework of sub-regional cooperation:
 - All Member States shall forward their proposals with detailed information as required in the Secretariat's call letter dated March 1983.

- Preservation of natural ecosystems and restoration of those ecosystems destroyed as a result of human activities or drought in order to quickly attain a minimum of 30% vegetation cover for the sub-region,
- By the promotion of national and communal reafforestation which should not be less than 500 and 10,000 hectares annually per country to cover national requirements in construction and industrial wood, transmission poles and fuel wood.
- Integration of the forest in the agricultural and pastoral sectors through notably the implementation of a section on forestry in all agricultural and animal husbandry projects.
- The reduction in the consumption of fuel wood by wide use of improved stoves.
- The formulation of a master plan for short and mediumterm national forestry development in each Member State.
- The creation of national parks and reserves for the preservation of wildlife.

B. AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

- i) The implementation of sub-regional forestry projects such as:
- Reafforestation of river basins and catchment areas
- Control of bushfire
- Control of insects, fungal and other forest pests
- Exchange of improved seeds and vegetative material;

- ii) Intensification and adoption of forestry research to reafforestation programme; also improving the exchange of scientific information;
- iii) Improvement of manpower training, public enlightenment and education;
 - iv) Pooling of the efforts of Member States and those of all specialised bodies of the sub-region with a view to mobilising the necessary funding for the implementation of re-afforestation programmes within the sub-region;
 - v) Harmonisation of forestry development plans of Member States at the sub-regional level;
 - vi) Encouragement and assistance in establishing national forestry fund in each Member State;
- vii) Organisation of a common front against poaching, and traficking in trophies and other wildlife parts as part of the campaign to preserve certain species;
- viii) Triennial meetings to evaluate progress and achievements in the implementation of the "Reafforestation Decade" programme.

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall come into effect upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

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FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE THE CHAIRMAN.

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONAKRY 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/DEC 1/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO THE SHORT AND MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONSCIOUS of the important role that agriculture plays in the socio-economic development of Member States;

CONVINCED that the Regional Agricultural Development Strategy adopted by the Authority of Heads of State and Government in May, 1982 at Cotonou (cf. A/DEC.4/5/82) necessitates the definition of clear and comprehensive programmes for the implementation of the said Strategy;

AFTER HAVING considered the Report of the First Joint Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture and Ministers of Water Resources and Forestry;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

The following short and medium-term projects for the implementation of the Regional Agricultural Development Strategy are hereby adopted:

I. AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

A. PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

- Limitation of rural exodus
- Water management programme (small dams and boreholes)
- Animal feed production
- Protection of pasture and farmlands
- Extension programmes on agricultural equipment and improvement of cultivation methods.

B. POST PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

- Composite Flours.

II. AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

A. PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

- Seed production centres
- Production of fertilizers and pesticides
- Irrigation development programme (large dam projects)
- Applied research
- Training
- Animal health
- (Ndama and Muturu) Cattle breeding stations
- Fishing and pisciculture.

B. POST PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

- Food security
- Crop protection

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall come into effect upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

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FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

THE CHAIRMAN.

13TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY 1983

C/DEC 2/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECOWAS INSURANCE BROWN CARD.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 40 of the Treaty for the Economic Community of West African States;

MINDFUL of the need to encourage the Free Movement of Goods and Persons between Member States;

HAVING examined the 18 - 23 April, 1983 Conakry Report of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Commission;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

FOR THE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECOWAS BROWN CARD:

a) each Member State shall nominate a National Company or distinct body to play the role of National Bureau,

- each Member State shall establish a National b) Bureau not later than the 1st of August, 1983,
- there shall be established a Council of c) Bureaux not later than 1st October, 1983,
- each Member State shall ensure the ratification d) of the Protocol before the 31st of December, 1983, in order for the ECOWAS Insurance Brown Card to enter into force definitively on the 1st of January, 1984.

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall come into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the Official Gazette of each Member State.

> DONE AT CONAKRY THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983 IN ONE SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES, BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

> > FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

THE CHAIRMAN.

13TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/DEC 3/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO THE "REAFFORESTATION DECADE" (1983 - 1993)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS:

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

IN PURSURANCE of the Decisions of Heads of State and Government (A/DEC.2/5/82) on reafforestation;

CONSCIOUS of the alarming rate of desert encroachment in the sub-region;

CONSIDERING the importance of wood in the overall energy resources of the sub-region;

CONVINCED that no Member State could on its own solve the desertification problem;

DECIDES

ARTICLE I

Priority is hereby given to the following actions:

A. AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL:

i) The control of desertification through reafforestation and paying particular attention among other things to the following:

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- Preservation of natural ecosystems and restoration of those ecosystems destroyed as a result of human activities or drought in order to quickly attain a minimum of 30% vegetation cover for the sub-region,
- By the promotion of national and communal reafforestation which should not be less than 500 and 10,000 hectares annually per country to cover national requirements in construction and industrial wood, transmission poles and fuel wood.
- Integration of the forest in the agricultural and pastoral sectors through notably the implementation of a section on forestry in all agricultural and animal husbandry projects.
- The reduction in the consumption of fuel wood by wide use of improved stoves.
- The formulation of a master plan for short and mediumterm national forestry development in each Member State.
- The creation of national parks and reserves for the preservation of wildlife.

B. AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

- i) The implementation of sub-regional forestry projects such as:
- Reafforestation of river basins and catchment areas
- Control of bushfire
- Control of insects, fungal and other forest pests
- Exchange of improved seeds and vegetative material;

- ii) Intensification and adoption of forestry research to reafforestation programme; also improving the exchange of scientific information;
- iii) Improvement of manpower training, public enlightenment and education;
 - iv) Pooling of the efforts of Member States and those of all specialised bodies of the sub-region with a view to mobilising the necessary funding for the implementation of re-afforestation programmes within the sub-region;
 - v) Harmonisation of forestry development plans of Member States at the sub-regional level;
 - vi) Encouragement and assistance in establishing national forestry fund in each Member State;
- vii) Organisation of a common front against poaching, and traficking in trophies and other wildlife parts as part of the campaign to preserve certain species;
- viii) Triennial meetings to evaluate progress and achievements in the implementation of the "Reafforestation Decade" programme.

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall come into effect upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT CONAKRY THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983 IN ONE SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE THE CHAIRMAN.

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/DEC 4/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO THE DRAWING UP OF PROJECT PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION.

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THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

CONSCIOUS of the need to define clear programmes for the implementation of the regional development policy;

AFTER having considered the report of the First Meeting of Ministries of Planning;

RECOGNISING the need for proper articulation and coordination of project proposals from Member States in various sectors;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

The following procedure is hereby adopted for drawing up project programme within the framework of sub-regional cooperation:

 All Member States shall forward their proposals with detailed information as required in the Secretariat's call letter dated March 1983.

- 2. The Permanent Committee for Studies and Research established by Decision A/DEC.6/4/78 shall evaluate all such project proposals using the agreed general guidelines and criteria and make recommendations to the meetings of Planning Experts and Ministers of Planning. Such recommendations shall be accompanied by detailed information on each projects.
- 3. The meetings of Experts and Ministers of Planning shall examine the draft programme with a view to ensure its coherence and balance and after its approval, the draft shall be submitted to the Council of Ministers.

ARTICLE 2

This Decision shall come into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT CONAKRY THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983 IN ONE SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE THE CHAIRMAN.

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY, 1983

C/DEC 5/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO THE PAYMENT OF SEPARATION ALLOWANCES

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

Payment of Separation Allowance should in future be made only at the end of an official's service with the Community.

ARTICLE 2

Due account should be taken at the time of their separation from the service of the Community of payments already made to some officials who are still in the service of the Community.

ARTICLE 3

If the official leaves as a result of fraud, he will be paid nothing; the official shall refund any such sums already paid to him.

ARTICLE 4

This Decision shall come into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE IN CONAKRY, THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY 1983 IN ONE SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE THE CHAIRMAN.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY 1983

C/DEC 6/5/83 DECISION RELATING TO GENERAL POLICY AND CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PROJECTS

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

- MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers, and defining its composition and functions;
- CONSCIOUS of the need, at this stage of the evolution of the Community to mobilise the necessary resources for socio-economic development of the sub-region;
- CONVINCED that the formulation and economic evaluation of projects must be preceded by a clear definition of criteria for the selection of such projects;
- TAKING into account Council Decision of November, 1982 concerning the strategy for the development and promotion of projects;

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

It is hereby adopted the following general policy guidelines and criteria for the selection of projects:

I. GENERAL GUIDELINES

i) re-orienting national production and consumption pattern towards the Community Market;

- ii) a careful selection of sectors and types of production in line with the priorities set by the Community.
- At the top of the list of priority sectors to be assisted by the Community are agriculture and agro-industry, communications and industrial infrastructures.

 With respect to industrial production as a whole, sub-regional development master plans shall be drawn up in the following areas already designated as priority sectors:
 - food processing
 - processing of agricultural chemicals
 - agricultural tools
 - construction materials
 - wood processing
 - telecommunications and electronic products
 - petro-chemical products
 - pharmaceutical products
 - iron and steel
 - automobile and related industries
- This list of priority industries may be expanded in line with Article 2.2. of Decision C/DEC.3/5/82;
 - iii) Search for a global regional balance: In seeking to reduce the disparities in the levels of development of Member States, a special attention shall be given to the promotion of projects in the less developed Member States.

II. SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Projects submitted for inclusion in the Regional Development

Programme shall also satisfy the following objectives:

- Achievement of the objective of collective self-reliance
- Promotion of economic integration and complementarity at both national and Community levels
- Better use of raw materials and natural resources in the sub-region
- Production of goods and services designed to satisfy the basic needs of the peoples of the sub-region
- Production of intermediate and capital goods to satisfy the needs of priority sectors and industries
- Offer of employment and provision of training opportunities to increase skills and promote the transfer of technology.

ARTICLE 2

It is to be understood that, apart from the general guidelines and criteria listed above, each project must satisfy the usual viability criterion and the ECOWAS rules of origin.

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 each Member State.

DONE AT CONAKRY, ON THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983 IN ONE SINGLE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES, BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE COUNCIL

HONOURABLE MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE THE CHAIRMAN.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY 1983

C/DIR 1/5/83 DIRECTIVE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PROGRAMME

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and function:

DIRECTS

The Executive Secretariat to:

- a) take all the necessary measures to present a printed draft highway code to the next meeting of the Transport Sub-Commission.
- b) undertake with Member States, studies on all the uncompleted portions by using as much as possible, National Consultancy Firms in the construction of the Trans West African Highway before 1988.
- c) stress the needs of Member States in the field of training for road maintenance. This study should lead to the revision of the training programmes of the two Liaising centres if need be.
- d) contact officially, the Federal Government of Nigeria for the choice of a training centre for the English-speaking countries.

- e) examine further the proposals on the toll system, the management and control over funds thus generated.
- 6) convene a consultative meeting comprising the Ministerial conference for West and Central African States on maritime transportation and its specialised agencies, managements of shipping companies and the departments responsible for maritime transportation for countries without shippers' councils to examine the study on the creation of a multinational coastal shipping company.
- g) continue with the study on the cooperation between West African Airlines by determining among other things the areas of intervention that may lead to the establishment of an ECOWAS Airline.
- h) carry out a study on the International Convention on the Law of the Sea in view of the importance to the ECOWAS Member States of the issues involved.
- i) study in collaboration with ECA, the establishment of a higher institute for Transport within the sub-region for the training of high level manpower in the field of Transport.

DONE AT CONAKRY, THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983

IN ONE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES
BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

HONOURABLE (DR) MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE

THE CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

13TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY 1983

C/DIR 2/5/89 DIRECTIVE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY
TELECOMMUNICATION PROGRAMME

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MINDFUL of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions.

DIRECTS

The ECOWAS Executive Secretariat to :

- a) organise, in September, 1983 in Dakar, a Seminar on the management of local networks;
- b) organise in the course of 1984, a Seminar on Telecommunications statistics;
- c) organise a meeting of Heads of Telecommunications

 Departments to study all the problems which

 currently exist in the implementation of inter
 state links, particularly those problems concerning

 the application of ECOWAS Telephone Tariffs on

 inter-state links.

DONE AT CONAKRY, THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY, 1983 IN ONE ORIGINAL IN THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGES BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

HONOURABLE (DR) MAMOUNA MALICK TOURE
THE CHAIRMAN

COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

13E SESSION DU CONSEIL DES MINISTRES DE LA CEDEAO 13TH SESSION OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAI 1983 CONAKRY, 5 - 7 MAY 1983

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

BENIN

AMCUSSOU ISIDORE

AYAYI MANASE DOSSOU SAMUEL

ADJAHO PICHARD
MIKPONHOUE SIMPHORIEN

FAVI JOACHIM

MONTCHO THECPHILE

TONY GUY

CAP VERT

SEQUEIRA OSUALAO
CORREIA FRANCISCO MOREIRA
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SECRETAIRE D'ETAT DU COMMERCE ET TOURISME PRAIA DIRECTEUR GENERAL DES DOUANES

CHEF DU DEPARTEMENT DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES AU M.A.E. - PRAÍA CAP-VERT

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|----------------------|--|
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| COTE D'IVOIRE | |
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| DOUE KOUITOUBO | CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AMBASSADE DE COTE D'IVOIRE A CONAKRY |
| R.P.R. DE GUINEE | |
| TOURE MAMOUNA MALICK | MINISTRE, COMMERCE EXTERIEUR DOUKA CONAKRY |
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| DIALLO MAZARIOU | DIRECTEUR AU MINISTERE DES TRANSPORTS CONAKRY |
| BARRY MOHAMED FODE | INSPECTEUR, MINISTERE DES TRANSPORTS CONAKRY |
| SANGARE MALAIY | DIRECTEUR DES AFFAIRES ECONOMIQUES AU MAEF PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE |
| SOW TANOU | DIRECTEUR DIVISION EUROPE, MINISTERE DE LA COOPERATION INTERNATIONALE CONAKRY |

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FONCTION ET ADRESSE / FUNCTION AND ADRESS

| R.P.R. | DE | GUINE | (CONT.) |
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| TOE MICHEL ZEBA ISSA | INSPECTEUR DES DOUANES BP 506 QUAGADQUGQU CONSEILLER DES AFFAIRES ECONOMIQUES/MINISTERE DU PLAN/ QUGADQUGQU |
| LIBERIA | |
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FONCTION ET ADRESSE / FUNCTION AND ADDRESS

MAURITANIE

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| SENEGAL | |
| TOURE ABDOURAHMANE | MINISTRE DU COMMERCE, MINISTERE DU COMMERCE DAKAR |
| SOW ABDOURAHMANE | CONSEILLER TECHNIQUE, MINISTERE DU COMMERCE DAKAR |
| DIOUF MBAYE | AMBASSADEUR, AMBASSADE DU SENEGAL EN GUINEE CONAKRY |
| WADE OUMAR TIDIANE | SECRETAIRE PERMANENT DU COMITE NATIONAL CEAO/CEDEAO MINISTERE DU COMMERCE DAKAR |
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| TOGO | |
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NOM/NAME

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DUMBUYA AHMED RAMADAN

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FAO HEADQUARTERS, ROME

| NOM/NAME | FONCTION ET ADRESSE / FUNCTION AND ADDRESS |
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| | |

NOM/NAME FONCTION ET ADRESSE FUNCTION AND ADDRESS FONDS DE LA CEDEAO/ECOWAS FUND TUBMAN R. MANAGING DIRECTOR SOURADJOU I. DIRECTEUR GENERAL ADJOINT FALL M. SECRETAIRE GENERAL GABBIDON N.R.R. AUDITEUR INTERNE BALDE S. DIRECTEUR DES FINANCES OSEI-BOATENG R. LEGAL ADVISER BROWN J. ECONOMIST STATISTICIAN MACAULEY-HOMAWOO D. CONFERENCE OFFICER JALLOW ALIEU OMAR PRINCIPAL TRANSLATOR JALLOH MOHAMMED H. LIBRARIAN DIARRA F. BINTA ASSISTANT DIVISION CONFERENCE ET RELATIONS PUBLIQUES