ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
ABUJA, 30 JUNE - 1 JULY, 1986

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) held its Ninth Ordinary Session at Abuja, the Federal Republic of Nigeria on 30th June and 1st July, 1986.

Present at the Summit were the following Heads of State and Government and/or their accredited representatives:

- His Excellency, Brigadier Mathieu KEREKOU, President of the People's Republic of BENIN,
- His Excellency, Captain Thomas SANKARA, Chairman of the National Revolutionary Council President of FASO,
- His Excellency, Mr. Aristides Maria PEREIRA,
 President of the Republic of CAPE VERDE,
- His Excellency, Alhaji Sir Dauda K. JAWARA, President of the Republic of THE GAMBIA,
- His Excellency, Major-General Joao Bernardo VIEIRA,
 President of the Republic of GUINEA-BISSAU,
- His Excellency, Dr. Samuel Kanyon DOE, President of the Republic of LIBERIA,
- His Excellency, Colonel Maouiva Ould Sid'Ahmed TAYA, Chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation Head of State of the Islamic Republic of MAURITANIA,

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- His Excellency, Major-General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA,
 President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces
 of the Federal Republic of NIGERIA
- His Excellency, Abdou DIOUF,
 President of the Republic of SENEGAL
- His Excellency, Major-General Dr. Joseph Saidu MOMOH, President of the Republic of SIERRA LEONE
- His Excellency, General Gnassingbe EYADEMA, Founder-Chairman of the Togolese People's Rally President of the Republic of TOGO
- For the Republic of NIGER
 Honourable Mr. Hamid ALGABID,
 Prime Minister, representing
 His Excellency, General Seyni KOUNTCHE,
 Chairman of the Supreme Military Council
 Head of State of the Republic of NIGER
- For the Republic of COTE D'IVOIRE

 Honourable Mr. Simeon AKE,

 Minister of Foreign Affairs, representing

 His Excellency, Mr. Felix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY,

 President of the Republic of COTE D'IVOIRE
- For the Republic of GHANA

 Honourable Alhaji Mahama IDRISSU,

 Member, Provisional National Defence Council, representing

 His Excellency, Flight-Lieutenant Jerry John RAWLINGS,

 Chairman, Provisional National Defence Council,

 Head of State of the Republic of GHANA
- For the Republic of GUINEA
 Honourable Major Kerfalla CAMARA,
 Minister, Permanent Secretary,
 Military Committee for National Recovery, representing
 His Excellency, General Lansana CONTE,
 President of the Republic of GUINEA

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- For the Republic of MALI
Honourable Mr. Dianka Kaba DIAKITE,
Minister of Finance and Trade, representing
His Excellency, General Moussa TRAORE,
President of the Republic of MALI

Attending the Session as observers were:

- The Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity
- The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa
- The Executive Secretary of the West African Clearing House
- The President of the Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce
- The Acting Executive Secretary of the West African Rice Development Association
- The President of ECOBANK
- The African Development Bank
- The West African Development Bank (BOAD)
- The Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO)
- The West African Economic Community (CEAO)
- The Mano River Union
- United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
- United States Agency for International Development
- The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- Islamic Development Bank

In declaring the Ninth Session of the Summit open, the current Chairman of the Authority and host Head of State, Major-General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, called for the observance of a two-minute silence in memory of those African brothers and sisters who had lost their lives in the on-going stustruggle against the apartheid system in South Africa.

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The Chairman welcomed most heartily all his brother
Presidents and delegates to the new Federal Capital of Abuja.
He also highlighted the major economic and social issues
facing the ECGWAS sub-region. The issues were also underlined
in the statements made by His Excellency Aristides PEREIRA,
President of the Republic of Cape Verde, His Excellency
Alhaji Sir Dauda K. JAWARA, President of the Republic of
The Gambia and by His Excellency Major-General
Dr. Joseph Saidu MOMOH, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone.
The OAU Secretary General, Mr. Ide OUMAROU and the E.C.A.
Executive Secretary, Professor Adebayo ADEDEJI also addressed
the Session.

In their statements, their Excellencies dwelt extensively on the persistent economic difficulties facing the West African sub-region and the continent as a whole. They noted that in order to overcome the economic crisis which is attributable to both deep-seated structural and exogenous problems, greater attention is being given to the strategy of collective self-reliance and economic co-operation. It was pointed out that ECOWAS was meant by its Founding Fathers to serve just such a purpose. In spite of its great potential, the Community has not vet made much progress to fulfil the justifiable expectations of the peoples of the sub-region. Their Excellencies reiterated that there is an urgent need to take measures to enable ECOWAS attain its objectives and play the role expected of sub-regional groups in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery.

The Authority called for the revitalisation of the Community in the spirit of its Founding Fathers. Member States re-affirmed their faith in ECOWAS and renewed their commitment to the attainment of its laudable goals and objectives. They directed the Ministers with responsibility for National Planning in Member States to meet to review the draft Economic Recovery

Programme of thesaub-region taking into consideration their various national development plans and priorities. It was recognised that, to enable ECOWAS make its expected contribution to West African development and become a creditable institution, the Community must be provided with the necessary financial and manpower resources.

Warm tribute was paid to His Excellency President Abdou DIOUF of Senegal for the role he played in bringing Africa's economic plight to the attention of the international community in his capacity as current Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity. The Heads of State urged Member States to implement the Programme of Action for Africa's Economic Recovery and Development that was adopted by the United Nations. It was recognised that the much needed contribution of the international community to the implementation of this Programme would depend on the commitment and efforts of the African Governments and peoples themselves.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers presented the report of the Nineteenth meeting of the Council. After a discussion of the different points raised in the Council report, the Authority adopted the following decisions:

1. Entry into force of the Second Phase of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Establishment.

The Authority reaffirmed its decision to move on to the Second Phase of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Establishment. The Authority declared the entry into force of the provisions of the Protocol relating to the Right of Residence as from June 5, 1986; the Second Phase wass to rune for a period of four years.

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2. Financial Contributions

The Executive Secretariat should agree with each Member State in arrears of contribution to ECOWAS on a time table in such a way that such Member States will settle their arrears up to 1983 by 31st October 1986. Outstanding balance should be settled by 31st March 1987.

3. Financing of Construction of Community Headquarters

On the construction of the Community headquarters, the Authority decided that financing should be in the proportion of 60% from the resources of the ECO AS Fund and 40% from Member States' contribution.

4. Disputes

The Authority mandated the current Chairman and the Head of the Guinean delegation to mediate in the dispute between two Member States of the Community, i.e. Liberia and Sierra Leone with a view to resolving the issues involved.

5. Protocol on Non-Agression

The Authority recalled the existence of the Protocol on Non-Agression and called for implementation of its provisions to facilitate peaceful settlement of disputes among Member States.

6. Election of Chairman

The Authority elected Nigeria as Chairman for the 1986-87 period.

7. Venue and Date of Next Meeting

The Authority decided to hold its Tenth meeting in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, in June 1987, at a date to be communicated later.

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8. Vote of Thanks

Their Excellencies the Heads of State and Government thanked their Brother and Friend, His Excellency Major-General Ibrahim Badamasi BABANGIDA, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Government and People of Nigeria for the very friendly and brotherly welcome and for all the facilities they enjoyed during their stay in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

DONE AT ABUJA, 1ST JULY, 1986.

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8. Value of Phanks

Their Excellancies Pie described and Workshop thanked their exceller and briefled, vir Exactly a segre-denoral thrabin Badamesi NaBAMGIDA, President, Cormando and Die Governmend of the Armed Post of the Poderal Reputaio of Majaria, the Coresmant and People as digeria for the very security and states and the all the Societies as any expeddences and the Federal Republic or any expeddences and the Federal Republic or allegate.

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