



ECOWAS COMMISSION
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ECOWAS STATEMENT ON GUINEA-BISSAU

The attention of the ECOWAS Commission has been drawn to a statement issued on 29 June 2026 by the National Campaign Committee of former presidential candidate Fernando Dias da Costa, and reported by Notabanca, alleging that remarks made by the Head of the recent ECOWAS Mission to Guinea-Bissau constituted “unacceptable interference” in the internal affairs of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. The Commission wishes to underscore, at the outset, that the Head of Mission was speaking on behalf of ECOWAS in the discharge of a collective mandate, and not in any national capacity.

ECOWAS respectfully recalls that the Mission was deployed pursuant to the mandate of the Authority of Heads of State and Government and acted exclusively within the framework of the Community’s responsibility to promote peace, constitutional order, political dialogue and regional stability.

The Commission further wishes to clarify that the Mission neither announced nor validated any constitutional process on behalf of the people of Guinea-Bissau. It merely communicated the broad outlines of the political roadmap discussed with the competent national authorities in the course of its consultations. Such communication should not be misconstrued as an attempt to determine the constitutional future of Guinea-Bissau, a sovereign decision that belongs exclusively to the institutions and people of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, in accordance with their Constitution and applicable national laws.

ECOWAS has consistently accompanied Guinea-Bissau in its efforts to consolidate peace, strengthen democratic governance and preserve constitutional order, always in accordance with the Community’s legal instruments. This engagement reflects the collective commitment of Member States to the principles enshrined in the ECOWAS Treaty and the Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance, including the peaceful resolution of political differences through dialogue and constitutional means.

The Commission therefore regrets attempts to portray the work of an ECOWAS Mission as foreign interference. Such characterisations overlook both the multilateral nature of the Mission and the collective decisions of the Authority of Heads of State and Government that underpin its mandate. ECOWAS remains firmly committed to the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all its





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Member States, while faithfully discharging its responsibility to support peace, constitutional governance and regional stability.

The Commission calls upon all political stakeholders to exercise restraint, engage in constructive dialogue and contribute to an atmosphere conducive to peace, national cohesion and democratic consolidation. ECOWAS will continue to stand alongside the people of Guinea-Bissau in support of a peaceful, inclusive and nationally owned political process that safeguards the country's stability and strengthens democratic institutions.


Done at Abuja, Nigéria, 29 June 2026

ECOWAS Commission