

TAKING NOTE of the establishment of an airline Company named ECOAIR by the private sector of the sub-region;

CONSCIOUS also of the fact that ECOAIR can contribute to the improvement of the route network and flight schedules in the sub-region;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the meeting of the 48th Session of the Council of Ministers, held in Dakar from 15 to 17 December, 2002;

DECIDES

Article 1

Member States shall give every necessary support to ECOAIR. In this regard, ECOAIR shall, inter alia, have the same rights and privileges, without any exception whatsoever, as the national carrier in each of the Member States

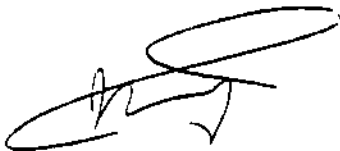
Article 2

ECOAIR may be designated in bilateral air service agreements to exploit traffic rights with States outside the ECOWAS region.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published by the Executive Secretariat in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member States in its National Gazette within the same time frame.

**DONE AT DAKAR, THIS 21ST DAY OF
DECEMBER, 2001**



**H. E. ALPHA OUMAR KONARE
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE AUTHORITY**

TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT DAKAR, 20 - 21 DECEMBER 2001

DECISION A/DEC.10/12/01 RELATING TO THE GRANT OF CERTAIN ADVANTAGES TO THE PRI- VATE SHIPPING COMPANY, ECOMARINE

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 32 of the Treaty relating to co-operation in the areas of transport, communication and tourism;

MINDFUL of Decision A/Dec.20/5/80 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS relating to the transport programme;

MINDFUL of Decision A/Dec.4/11/84 relating to maritime transportation and specifically on the creation of a regional shipping line service;

AWARE of the necessity to increase inter-regional trade and ensure free movement of goods and persons in the ECOWAS region;

MINDFUL of the needs to improve coastal shipping services in the West African region;

TAKING NOTE of the establishment of a shipping company called ECOMARINE by the private sector of the region;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the forty-Eighth Session of the Council of Ministers held in Dakar from 15- 17 December 2001

DECIDES

Article 1

Member states shall give every necessary support to ECOMARINE. In this regard, it shall enjoy the same privileges and advantages as those of national carriers of Member States.

Article 2

Member States shall simplify relevant customs and immigration and port hearth procedures in order to encourage sea travels in the region.

Article 3

i) The ports in the region shall grant berthing

facilities to all coastal shipping lines

- ii) They shall also allow the use, by the coastal shipping lines, of the transit terminals and other facilities at the port.

Article 4

This Decision shall be published by the Executive Secretariat in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Members State in its National Gazette within the same time frame.

**DONE AT DAKAR, THIS 21ST DAY OF
DECEMBER, 2001**



**H. E. ALPHA OUMAR KONARE
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE AUTHORITY**

**TWENTY FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT
DAKAR, 20 - 21 DECEMBER 2001**

**DECISION A/DEC.11/12/01 RELATING TO THE NE-
GOTIATION OF A REGIONAL ECONOMIC PART-
NERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST AFRI-
CAN ACP STATES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION
(EU)**

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

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Treaty estab-
lishing the Authority of Heads of State and Govern-
ment and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of decision A/DEC.8/12/99 dated 10 De-
cember 1999 concerning the strengthening of the

partnership between West Africa and the European Union and designating ECOWAS as the regional framework for the coordination of the relationship between West African States and the European Union;

RECALLING the Cotonou Agreement signed on 27 June 2000, relating to cooperation arrangements between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States;

CONVINCED that the conclusion of a regional economic partnership agreement as envisaged under the said ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement can serve as a mechanism for enhancing the development and integration of the West African economies;

RE-AFFIRMING its commitment to the acceleration of the regional integration process through the early establishment of a customs union and the creation of a single regional convertible currency;

CONVINCED that the degree of regional integration already achieved in West Africa through ECOWAS and UEMOA, and the measures envisaged for the achievement of market integration will enable the region to satisfy the conditions for concluding a regional partnership agreement with the European Union;

NOTING the commitment of the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat and the UEMOA Commission to the harmonisation of their market and monetary integration programmes, and the positive results achieved through their regular consultative meetings.

DECIDES

Article 1

West African countries shall negotiate, as a group, a regional economic partnership agreement with the European Union with a view to facilitating the development and integration of the economies in the region.

Article 2

1. The ECOWAS Executive Secretariat shall, in collaboration with the UEMOA Commission and appropriate authorities in each Member State, take all necessary measures to ensure the successful conclusion of the said regional economic partnership agreement.
2. For the purpose of the paragraph above, a regional negotiation coordinating committee and such other technical arrangements shall be established to enable West Africa achieve the negotiating capacity required for the conclusion of a partnership agreement with the European Union.