



**TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY
OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

Accra, 19 December 2003

**DECISION A/DEC.2/12/03 RELATING TO THE EUROPEAN INITIATIVE
ON ENERGY FOR POVERTY ERADICATION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

Mindful of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Treaty establishing the Authority of Heads of States and Government and defining its composition and functions;

Considering that the ECOWAS Revised Treaty, of July 24, 1993, reaffirmed the principles set forth in the Treaty of May 28, 1975 establishing ECOWAS for the purpose of encouraging cooperation among the Member States in the areas of economic development and, to this end, favouring the free movement of people and goods between States;

Mindful of decision A/DEC.3/5/82 relating to the ECOWAS energy policy;

Considering that the Member States have demonstrated their will to coordinate their efforts with a view to implementing the ECOWAS priority action plans, notably those relating to the interconnection of infrastructure;

Considering that the Authority of Heads of State and government adopted the decision A/DEC.5/12/99, which in article 2 created a coordinating structure for the meeting of Energy Ministers and the Committee of Chief Executives of the Transmission System Operators of the Member States and defined its attributes;

Mindful of Regulation C/REG.7/12/99 relating to the adoption of a Master Plan to develop means of energy production and interconnection of electricity networks of the ECOWAS Member States promulgated by the Council of Ministers;

Mindful of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the ECOWAS Ministers of Energy in Lomé, on September 29, 2000, committing the signatory Governments;

Considering that at the Johannesburg Summit the European Union announced the European Initiative promoting access to modern types of energy as an essential factor of sustainable development.

Considering that the European Initiative, related to the sustainable energy development of the ACP countries, aims to promote a strategic partnership between the ACP countries, on the one hand, and the European Commission and EU Member States on the other hand, in order to integrate energy as a priority into the official development assistance program of the European Union;



Considering that the European Development Fund is a main instrument of the European Union for allocation of resources to public aid to the development of the ACP countries.

Considering that the European Parliament has adopted a 5-year program called « Intelligent Energy for Europe » of which the component "COOPENER" is designed to facilitate the «energy dialogue » between the European Union and its developing country partners to assist them in developing appropriate energy policies needed for their economic and social development;

Mindful of the European Initiative, related to the sustainable energy development of the ACP countries, aims to promote a strategic partnership between the ACP countries, on the one hand, and the European Commission and EU Member States on the other hand, in order to integrate energy as a priority into the official development assistance program of the European Union;

Considering resolution N°3 the ECOWAS Energy Ministers relating to the European initiative on energy for poverty eradication and sustainable development, adopted in Dakar on November 7, 2003,

ARTICLE 1

The ECOWAS Executive Secretariat is invited to review the regional PRSP with the aim to integrate energy sector investments into eligible programmes of the European Development Fund before the end of the first semester of year 2004 when the PRSP review is planned.

ARTICLE 2

In the same period, the Member States are invited to review national PRSPs and include Energy in their National Priority Development Program with the aim to integrate energy sector investments into eligible programs of the European Development Fund.

ARTICLE 3

This Decision shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community by the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat within (30) thirty days of its signature by the current chairman of Authority of Heads of States and Government. It shall also be published within the same timeframe in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE IN ACCRA, THIS 19TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2003

H.E. JOHN AGYEKUM KUFUOR
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE AUTHORITY