



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

Accra, 19 December 2003

**DECISION A/DEC.3/12/03 ON THE REGIONAL RURAL
ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME**

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT,

Mindful of articles 7,8 and 9 of the revised ECOWAS establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

Mindful of Decision A/DEC. 3/5/82 on the ECOWAS energy policy;

Mindful of Decision A/DEC.5/12/99 setting up a West African Power Pool;

Recalling Regulation C/REG.7/12/99 on the adoption of a master plan for the development of energy production facilities and the interconnection of the electricity grids of the ECOWAS Member States;

Bearing in mind the aims and objectives of ECOWAS which are the promotion of economic cooperation and integration for the purpose of establishing an economic union to improve the welfare of its peoples, maintaining and increasing economic stability, cementing relations between the Member States and contributing to the progress and development of the African continent;

Deploring the almost total inaccessibility of modern energy sources to the rural population of the sub-region;

Considering the millennium development objective fixed by the UNO of reducing poverty by half by 2015 and the objectives of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs);

Aware of the urgent need to accelerate the pace of the WAPP implementation process in order to made electricity available to all the peoples of West Africa within the shortest possible time;

Noting the will of the European Union Commission and its Member States, confirmed at the Nairobi conference on the European Union energy initiative, to include the energy development programmes of the ACP countries in the national and regional PRSPs;

On the recommendation of the fifty-first session of the Council of Ministers held at Accra from 15 and 18 December 2003;



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DECIDES

Article 1

1. The Executive Secretariat shall prepare a policy paper on rural electrification, which shall include a regional strategy programme, a plan of action and an investment programme for electrification.
2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 above, the Executive Secretariat shall engage the services of a technical partner with proven experience in electrification, who is capable of mobilising the funds needed to ensure successful implementation of the programme.


Article 2

The Executive Secretariat shall submit the proposed strategy to a regional forum for validation at the end of the first half of 2004, in preparation for its inclusion in the PRSPs of the European Union, the World Bank, or any other donor wishing to participate.

Article 3

This Regulation shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers. It shall also be published within the same time frame in the Official Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT ACCRA THIS 19TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2003



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H.E. JOHN AGYEKUM KUFUOR
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE AUTHORITY