

DECISION C/DEC.3/12/92 ON THE INTRODUCTION OF A HARMONISED IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION FORM IN ECOWAS MEMBER STATES

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Mindful of Article 6 of the ECOWAS Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

Mindful of Protocol A/P.1/5/79 dated 29 May, 1979 relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Establishment;

Mindful of Decision A/DEC.5/7/92 dated 29 July, 1992 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government mandating the Executive Secretariat to prepare a specimen of the harmonised immigration and emigration form;

Considering the crucial role of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Establishment in the West African integration process;

Convinced that, the adoption of a harmonised Community immigration and emigration form will facilitate and simplify cross-border formalities in Member States;

DECIDES

Article 1

1. (a) There is hereby established a harmonised immigration and emigration form hereinafter referred to as the "Immigration and Emigration Form of ECOWAS Member States".
- (b) The form shall be a rectangular card measuring 15cm x 9cm and containing several carbon copies.

2. (a) The form shall be used by citizens of the Community only in exceptional cases. The first sheet shall be detached and kept at the first border post after verification of the information contained therein.
- (b) After the stamped copy has been removed, the rest of the form shall be released to the traveller for presentation at subsequent border posts.
3. The acronym "ECOWAS/CEDEAO", the ECOWAS logo and the name of the Member State (Republic of) shall be printed at the top of the leaves of the booklet.

Article 2

The immigration and emigration form shall be printed and issued free of charge by the competent authorities of each Member State.

Article 3

The specimen of the form is annexed to this Decision.

Article 4

Member States shall take all necessary statutory and administrative measures to ensure the prompt implementation of this Decision.

Article 5

This Decision shall enter into force upon signature and shall be published in the Official Journal of the Community and in the National Gazette of each Member State.

DONE AT ABUJA, THIS 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 1992.

PAUL DOSSOU
CHAIRMAN
FOR COUNCIL

