

CHAPTER IX: ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPLETION OF AN ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

Article 54

Establishment of an Economic Union

1. Member States undertake to achieve the status of an economic union within a maximum period of fifteen (15) years following the commencement of the regional trade liberalization scheme,
adopted by the Authority through its Decision A/DEC.1/9/83 of 20 May 1983 and launched on 1 January 1990.
2. Member States shall give priority to the role of the private sector and joint regional multinational enterprises in the regional economic integration process.

Article 55

Completion of Economic and Monetary Union

1. Member States undertake to complete within five (5) years following the creation of a Custom Union, the establishment of an economic and monetary union through:
(i) the adoption of a common policy in all fields of socio economic activity particularly agriculture, industry, transport, communications, energy and scientific research;
(ii) the total elimination of all obstacles to the free movement of people, goods, capital and services and the right of entry, residence and establishment;
(iii) the harmonization of monetary, financial and fiscal policies, the setting up of West African monetary union, the establishment of a single regional Central Bank and the creation of a single West African currency.
2. The Authority may at any time, on the recommendation of the Council, decide that any stage of the integration process shall be implemented more rapidly than otherwise provided for in this Treaty.

CHAPTER X: COOPERATION IN POLITICAL, JUDICIAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS, REGIONAL SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION

Article 56

Political Affairs

1. In pursuit of the integration objectives of the Community, Member States undertake to cooperate on political matters, and in particular, to take appropriate measures to ensure effective application of the provisions of this Treaty.
2. The signatory States to the Protocol on Non-Aggression the Protocol on Mutual Assistance on Defence, the Community Declaration of Political Principles and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights agree to cooperate for the purpose of realizing, the objectives of these instruments.

Article 57

Judicial and Legal Matters

1. Member States undertake to cooperate in judicial and legal matters with a view to harmonizing their judicial and legal systems.
2. The modalities for the implementation of this arrangement shall be the subject matter of a Protocol.

Article 58

Regional Security

1. Member States undertake to work to safeguard and consolidate relations conducive to the maintenance of peace, stability and security within the region.
2. In pursuit of these objectives, Member States undertake to cooperate with the Community in establishing and strengthening appropriate mechanisms for the timely prevention and resolution of intra-State and inter-State conflicts, paying particular regard to the need to:
 - (a) maintain periodic and regular consultations between national border administration authorities;
 - (b) establish local or national joint commissions to examine any problems encountered in relations between neighbouring States;
 - (c) encourage exchanges and cooperation between communities, townships and administrative regions;
 - (d) organize meetings between relevant ministries on various aspects of inter-State relations;
 - (e) employ where appropriate, good offices, conciliation, meditation and other methods of peaceful settlement of disputes;
 - (f) establish a regional peace and security observation system and peacekeeping forces where appropriate;
 - (g) provide, where necessary and at the request of Member States, assistance to Member States for the observation of democratic elections.

3. The detailed provisions governing political cooperation, regional peace and stability shall be defined in the relevant Protocols.

Article 59

Immigration

1. Citizens of the community shall have the right of entry, residence and establishment and Member States undertake to recognise these rights of Community citizens in their territories in accordance with the provisions of the Protocols relating thereto.
2. Member States undertake to adopt all appropriate measures to ensure that Community citizens enjoy fully the rights referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. Member States undertake to adopt, at national level, all measures necessary for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Article.

CHAPTER XI: COOPERATION IN HUMAN RESOURCES, INFORMATION, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Article 60

Human Resources

1. Member States undertake to cooperate in the full development and utilization of their human right resources.
2. To this end, they shall take measures to:
 - (a) strengthen cooperation among themselves in the fields of education, training and employment; and to harmonize and coordinate their policies and programmes in these areas;
 - (b) consolidate their existing, training institutions, improve the efficacy of their educational systems, encourage exchanges between schools and universities, establish equivalences of academic, professional and technical qualifications, encourage literacy, promote the teaching and practice of the official languages of the Community, and establish regional centres of excellence in various disciplines;
 - (c) encourage the exchange of skilled manpower between Member States.

Article 61

Social Affairs

1. Member States undertake to cooperate with a view to mobilize, the various sections of the population and ensuring their effective integration and involvement in the social development of the region.
2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 of this Article, Member States undertake to:
 - (a) encourage the exchange of experiences and information on literacy, professional training and employment;
 - (b) harmonize their labour laws and social security legislations;
 - (c) promote women's and youth organizations and professional associations as a means