



**SIXTY-NINTH ORDINARY SESSION OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

Abidjan, 30 November – 2 December 2012

**RECOMMENDATION C/REG.4/12/12 ESTABLISHING THE
REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY RESERVE IN THE ECOWAS
REGION**

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Mindful of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

Mindful of Regulation C/REG.21/11/10 harmonising the structural framework and operational regulations relating to food, plant and animal health safety in the ECOWAS region;

Mindful of Decision A/DEC.11/01/05 adopting an Agricultural Policy for the Economic Community of West African States;

Mindful of Decision C/DEC.1/5/81 relating to the components, including eradication of hunger, popularisation of some seed varieties and animal species, financing of research programmes and projects in agricultural products, storage and processing of agricultural products;

Mindful of Decision C/DEC.1/05/83 relating to the short and medium-term Programme for the Implementation of the Regional Agricultural Development Strategy;

Mindful of Regulation C/REG.1/08/11 establishing the ECOWAS Food and Agriculture Agency;

CONSIDERING the strategic role of the agricultural sector in Member States' economies in facilitating good supply and poverty eradication in rural areas;

CONVINCED of the need to promote sustainable, more productive and competitive agriculture in Member States to ensure food security and improve the living standards of the farmers;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the climate hazards, locust invasions, economic or structural crises as well as volatility of prices of agricultural products or inputs are factors that seriously undermine the agricultural sector and do not facilitate the realisation of food security, which is one of the objectives of the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy;

AWARE of the need to put in place protective measures against such hazards and the related structural events that may impede the effective establishment of a food reserve in the ECOWAS region in the event of a food crisis;

DESIROUS of establishing the ECOWAS Regional Food Security Reserve with a view to mitigating, within acceptable levels, the unpredictable events that negatively impact on the ECOWAS Region's food security;

ON THE PROPOSAL of the meeting of the ECOWAS Ministers of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources held in Abidjan on 27 September 2012;



RECOMMENDS TO THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT THE ATTACHED SUPPLEMENTARY ACT ESTABLISHING THE REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY RESERVE IN THE ECOWAS REGION.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 2ND DAY OF DECEMBER 2012

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN
FOR COUNCIL