

AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES  
AND  
THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

The Economic Community of West African States, hereinafter referred to as 'ECOWAS', and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, hereinafter referred to as 'Unesco',

Recalling that ECOWAS was established for the purpose, in particular, of co-ordinating and intensifying the co-operation and activities of its Member States so that they can achieve a higher standard of living and thereby further the unity and solidarity of the peoples of the subregion, in accordance with the provisions of the Community's Treaty,

Recalling also that Unesco was created in order to advance, through the educational and scientific and cultural relations of the peoples of the world, the objectives of international peace and of the common welfare of mankind for which the United Nations Organization was established and which its Charter proclaims,

Considering that the tasks and activities undertaken by ECOWAS in the subregion for the purpose of intensifying co-operation in the fields of education, science and culture are similar to, and in harmony with, those that Unesco is pursuing at world level,

Desirous of co-ordinating their respective efforts in pursuit of the aims that are common to them within the framework of the United Nations Charter, the ECOWAS Treaty and the Constitution of Unesco,

Having regard to decision 7.6 adopted by the Executive Board of Unesco at its 114th session,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

Co-operation

ECOWAS and Unesco shall co-operate with one another through their appropriate bodies.

Such co-operation shall cover all matters of common interest relating to education, science, and culture, that are within the scope of the work and activities of the two organizations.

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ARTICLE II

Consultations

1. The appropriate bodies of the two organizations shall consult regularly on all matters defined in Article I.
2. The two organizations shall, as appropriate, hold special consultations concerning the choice of the means considered to be most appropriate for ensuring that their respective activities in areas of common interest are fully effective.

ARTICLE III

Reciprocal representation

1. The Executive Secretary of ECOWAS shall notify the Director General of Unesco of the convening of all sessions of the Conference of Heads of State and of Government, and of the other meetings of ECOWAS, and shall invite Unesco to send observers to them if their agendas are of interest from the point of view of Unesco's programme.
2. The Director-General of Unesco shall notify the Executive Secretary of ECOWAS of the convening of all sessions of the General Conference and shall invite ECOWAS to send observers to them; he shall, furthermore, invite ECOWAS to send observers to Unesco meetings whose agendas are of interest from the point of view of the ECOWAS programme.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

In appropriate cases, meetings convened by one organization may call for the co-operation and participation of the other organization. The scope of such co-operation and participation will be the subject of arrangements in each case, taking into account any relevant resolution approved by the organization responsible for the convening of the meeting.

ARTICLE V

Assistance for technical studies

1. The two organizations may ask one another to provide assistance for the technical study of matters of common interest.
2. Any such request submitted by one of the organizations shall be examined by the appropriate body of the other which, within the framework of its relevant programmes or authorized activities, shall make every effort to provide the assistance requested in the form and under the arrangements agreed on by the two organizations.

ARTICLE VI

Exchange of information and documents

1. Subject to such arrangements as may be necessary for the safeguarding of confidential material and information, the two organizations shall exchange all information and documents concerning matters of common interest, which information and documents they may then use either jointly or individually as circumstances require.
2. ECOWAS shall be kept informed by Unesco of those of its activities that concern ECOWAS.
3. Unesco shall be kept informed by ECOWAS of those of its activities that concern Unesco.

ARTICLE VII

Joint action

ECOWAS and Unesco may, through special agreements, together decide upon joint action with a view to attaining objects of common interest.

These special agreements shall define the ways in which each of the two organizations shall participate in this action, and shall specify the financial commitments that each is to assume.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into force, alteration and duration

1. As soon as it has been approved by the Council of Ministers of ECOWAS and by the Executive Board of Unesco, the present agreement shall be signed by the appointed representatives of the two organizations and shall enter into force on the date of the signature.
2. The terms of the agreement may be altered with the consent of both parties.
3. Either of the parties may terminate the agreement by giving six months' notice to the other party.

In witness whereof, the Executive Secretary of the

.../...



Economic Community of West African States and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization have signed this agreement in four copies in English and French, the two texts being equally authentic.

For the United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organization:

For the Economic Community  
Of West African States:

Place and date: 26. 8. 1983

Place and date: 26/8/83

*A. A. I' BOW*



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Director - General

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Executive Secretary