

**REGULATION C/REG. 5/11/96 ESTABLISHING A FORUM OF ASSOCIATIONS RECOGNIZED BY ECOWAS (FARE)**

**THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,**

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Revised Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 61 of the Revised Treaty in which Member States undertake to cooperate with a view to mobilising the various sections of the population in order to ensure their effective integration and involvement in the social development of the region;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC. 9/8/94 of the Authority of Heads of State and Government establishing Regulations for the Granting to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's) the status of observer within the Institutions of ECOWAS;

NOTING that a large number of NGO's have been granted observer status within ECOWAS;

DESIRING to create a body that would coordinate all activities of the NGO's as well as provide a liaison between the Associations and the Executive Secretariat;

On the RECOMMENDATION of the first meeting of Associations granted observer status within ECOWAS, held in Lagos from 11th to 13th June, 1996;

**ENACTS**

**Article 1**

**Establishment and Function**

1. A Forum of Associations recognised by ECOWAS is hereby established.
2. The forum shall comprise all Associations that have been granted observer status.
3. The Forum shall have the following functions:

- a) act as a link between the recognised associations;
- b) provide a framework for a regular exchange of viewpoints and experiences relating to the problems impeding the integration process;
- c) provide a focal point for the formulation of collective recommendations and points of view on prospective actions for submission to the Council of Ministers through the Executive Secretariat;
- d) any other functions as may be decided by the Council of Ministers.

**Article 2**

**Meeting the Forum**

1. The Forum shall meet twice a year while the bureau shall meet as often as possible.
2. Meetings of the Forum shall be rotated between the Executive Secretariat, and Member States.
3. The Executive Secretariat shall provide logistics support for all meetings of the Forum.
4. The Forum shall adopt its rules of procedure.

**Article 3**

**The Bureau**

1. The Forum shall have a Bureau to coordinate its activities. The officers of the Bureau shall be elected by the Forum for a specific term.
2. All members of the Forum shall maintain a steady flow of information with the Bureau.
3. The Bureau in cooperation with the Executive Secretariat shall compile a list of all members of the Forum which shall include all necessary information to facilitate the exchange of information.

**Article 4****Publication**

This Regulation shall be published by the Executive Secretariat in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

It shall also be published within the same time-frame by each Member State in its National Gazette.

**DONE AT LOME,  
THIS 22ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1996**



**HON. AYO OGUNLADE  
CHAIRMAN  
FOR COUNCIL**

**REGULATION C/REG. 6/11/96 INSTITUTING  
THE ECOWAS PRESS CARD**

**THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,**

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Revised Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions:

MINDFUL of Articles 65 and 66 of the Revised ECOWAS Treaty relating to cooperation in the area of information;

MINDFUL of Decision C/DEC. 9/12/94 of the Council of Ministers adopting an ECOWAS Priority Programme of Action and Information which provides for the institution of an ECOWAS Press Card;

DESIRING to facilitate frequent interaction of West African media practitioners and to enable them obtain better access to information about Member States and Community activities;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Seventh Meeting of the Social and Cultural Affairs Commission held in Lagos from 31st January to 2nd February, 1996;

**ENACTS****Article 1****Establishment**

An ECOWAS Press Card is hereby established

**Article 2****Objectives**

The primary objectives of the Press Card is to facilitates frequent interaction between West African media practitioners in order to:

- (a) enable them obtain better access to information about Member States and Community activities; and
- b) enhance their output in the promotion of Community objectives.

**Article 3**

Privileges to be accorded to the Holders of the Press Card

The holder of the Press Card shall be accorded the following privileges:

- (a) he/she shall have priority and better