

Economic Community of West African States, African Regional Bodies

Regulation C/REG.2/12/99 on the Improvement of Telecommunications Connectivity in ECOWAS Member States

Legislation as at 7 December 1999

FRBR URI: /akn/aa-ecowas/act/reg/1999/12-2/eng@1999-12-07

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Regulation C/REG.2/12/99 on the Improvement of Telecommunications Connectivity in ECOWAS
Member States
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Economic Community of West African States

Regulation C/REG.2/12/99 on the Improvement of Telecommunications Connectivity in ECOWAS Member States

Published in official journal 37 on 1 December 1999

Commenced in full

[This is the version of this document at 7 December 1999.]

The Council of Ministers,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Revised Treaty establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

RECOGNISING that direct interconnection between ECOWAS States using modern telecommunications systems is a prerequisite for sub-regional economic integration;

CONSIDERING that only thirty-two percent of traffic within the ECOWAS zone is by direct connectivity and that this situation is due in part to the poor quality of connections and inappropriate transit charges;

NOTING that twelve of the sixteen Member States are connected to INTELSTAT 355.E, of which ten are already equipped with DAMA satellite system;

NOTING ALSO that establishing an overall DAMA network for ECOWAS Member States and bringing in new digital technology will improve the flow of traffic by providing new direct links at competitive rates.

ENACTS

Article 1

1. Member States and telecommunications operators shall take all necessary measures to ensure efficient functioning of existing links;
2. To this end, Member States shall:
 - (a) make every necessary provision to ensure direct connectivity between their countries on the DAMA network as an initial step, whilst exploring other possibilities from existing technologies;
 - (b) seek all technical and technological means and seek the funding required to improve connectivity between Member States.

Article 2

The necessary coordination shall be established between the Executive Secretariat and the different regional and sub-regional telecommunications organisations in order to optimise the investment resources available, and ensure better planning of the National Networks.

Article 3

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

Done at Lomé, this 7th day of December 1999

Abdoul Hamid S.B. Tidjani-Dourodjaye

Chairman for Council