

FORTY-NINETH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

DAKAR, 26-28 JANUARY, 2003

REGULATION C/REG.3/01/03

**RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGULATIONS ON
TRANSHUMANCE BETWEEN THE ECOWAS MEMBER STATES.**

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Article 10, 11 and 12 of the Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions.

MINDFUL of Article 25 of the Treaty on cooperation between the Member States as a means for achieving agricultural development and food security.

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.5/10/98 on the regulation of transhumance between the ECOWAS Member States.

CONVINCED that the sustained development of livestock production is an integral part of any food security or poverty reduction policy.

CONSIDERING that given the resources presently available to the ECOWAS Member States, traditional pastoral farming systems such as transhumance, subsist and contribute to socio-economic development and the growth of livestock production.

AWARE that the random movement of livestock and transhumance can trigger numerous health, social, legal, environmental, economic and political problems.

DESIROUS of improving the conditions for livestock production in the Member States, and, for the purpose, to induce a gradual evolution of the traditional farming systems towards intensive breeding methods, and to introduce transhumance regulations in the ECOWAS sub-region.

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the meeting of ECOWAS Ministers responsible for livestock production, held in Ouagadougou, on 9 and 10 October 2002.

The measures hereunder shall be taken by all the States of the ECOWAS sub-region

ARTICLE 1

AT THE LEVEL OF THE MEMBER STATES

- a) Organisation of information, communication, enlightenment, training and education campaigns and programmes directed at transhumant herdsmen and the different actors involved in transhumance in the departure, transit and host zone of transhumant herds;
- b) Establishment and/or re-energising of pastoral organizations at the national level, and especially, of breeders' associations, in order to encourage them to contribute to the improvement management of transhumance, and the prevention and management of transhumance related conflicts.
- c) Establishment of national committees, networks or other bodies, to manage, monitor and appraise transhumance.
- d) Strict compliance, by the livestock breeding States, transhumant, farmers and other sections of the rural society:

- With the decision of the Heads of States and Government regulating transhumance between the Member States, and with the provisions of the ECOWAS Protocols, Conventions and Decisions relating thereto, and particularly, to those on the free movement of persons, good and services, and to the mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution, peace-keeping and security.
- With the laws and regulations in force in the Member States, and to bilateral and multilateral commitment, especially those concerning the conservation and sustained management of natural resources and the environment.
- With the abrogation by Benin, of the measure suspending transhumance.

ARTICLE 2: AT THE LEVEL OF THE ECOWAS EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

- i. Technical and financial support shall be given by ECOWAS, which shall also source funds from donors for the following:
 - ii. To finance information, training and enlightenment programmes for transhumant herdsman and the local communities affected by cross-border transhumance.
 - To print and circulate the ECOWAS international transhumance certificate.
 - iii. To organize annual meetings to appraise and programme transhumance between neighboring States, and biennial meetings on transhumance in the West African sub-region, jointly sponsored by ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS and other organizations with stakes in transhumance.

- iv. To conduct up-date studies on transhumance routes and itineraries, in collaboration with UEMOA, CILSS and other organizations with stakes in transhumance.
 - v. To formulate and implement sub-regional programmes for the development of grazing lands, or the creation of cross-border infrastructures to facilitate transhumance.
 - vi. To set up pilot cross-border projects with a view to developing new joint management methods for the transhumance routes and host zones.
 - vii. To conduct a study projecting the future of livestock production, particularly in West and Central Africa.
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- b. Other intergovernmental organizations in West and Central Africa shall be officially briefed in order to coordinate initiative and interventions relating to transhumance in West and Central Africa.
 - c. OAU/IBAR shall be officially briefed in order to ensure the inclusion of transhumance in the Pan African Programme for the Control of Epizootic Diseases (PACE) in view of the serious implications of animal movements for animal health.
 - d. A high-level emergency meeting of the countries concerned shall be convened, with a view to finding a lasting solution to the presence of alien livestock entering the territory of the host country illegally.

ARTICLE 3: AT THE LEVEL OF THE MEMBERS STATES AND ECOWAS


- i. Coverage of all the transhumance routes within sub-region.
- ii. Creation of an information and communications network for transhumance and the monitoring of animal diseases.
- iii. Involvement of herdsmen, associations of professionals and other stakeholders in the implementation of the decision of the Heads of States.
- iv. Formulation and implementation, within each Member State, of a pastoral development programme involving the preparation of maps of grazing areas, transhumance zone and watering points.
- v. Creation of a Ministerial monitoring committee on transhumance.
- vi. Creation of a regional transhumance observatory to monitor compliance with ECOWAS measures.
- vii. Formulation of a regional pastoral resources strategy within the framework of the sub-regional action plan (SRAP) for desertification control adopted by the Authority of Heads of State and Government, and of initiatives taken within the West African sector of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)
- viii. Inclusion of pastoral and agro-economic programmes in the curriculums of West African training institutions specializing in livestock production.

- ix. Promotion of dialogue and collaboration between Member States on transhumance related issues.
- x. Dissemination of information on animal health among the veterinary services of the Member States.

ARTICLE 4: ENTRY INTO FORCE

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 in the National Gazette of each Member State within the same time-frame.

DONE AT DAKAR, THIS 28 DAY OF JANUARY 2003



HON. CHEIKH TIDIANE GADIO
CHAIRMAN
FOR COUNCIL