



11th MEETING OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF ENERGY

RESOLUTION 4

RELATING TO THE ECOWAS BIOENERGY STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

THE MEETING OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF ENERGY;

MINDFUL OF article 28 of the revised Treaty relating to the coordination and harmonization of the Energy Policy of the Members States;

MINDFUL OF Decision A/DEC.3/5/82 relating to the adoption of the ECOWAS Energy Policy, adopted by the Authority of Heads of State and Government in 1982;

MINDFUL OF Decision A/DEC.17/01/03 of the Authority of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government relating to the ECOWAS Energy Protocol;

MINDFUL of Decision A/DEC.24/01/06 relating to the ECOWAS/UEMOA Regional Policy on Access to Energy Services for Populations in Rural and Suburban Areas for Poverty Reduction towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals {MDGs};

MINDFUL of Regulation C/REG. 23/11/08 of the sixty-first Council of Ministers relating to the establishment of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy efficiency(ECREEE);

CONSIDERING the Project Document on the establishment of Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency formally adopted by ECOWAS and its Partners;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.9/12/08, December 2008 relating to the Headquarters of ECREEE;

MINDFUL of Enabling Rule PEC/ER/1/01/11 Relating to the Organisation and Operation of ECREEE;

MINDFUL OF the objectives of the UN Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Initiative which aims at universal access to modern energy services by 2030; doubling the rate to improve energy efficiency worldwide; doubling the share of renewables in the global energy mix.

AWARE that renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions can address the challenges of energy access, energy security and climate change mitigation simultaneously and effectively in the ECOWAS region;



AWARE of the urgency to address the various existing barriers hindering the exploitation of the manifold renewable energy potentials in the ECOWAS region;

AWARE that renewable energy technologies offer increasingly interesting opportunities to meet the growing urban electricity demand and to boost access to sustainable energy services in rural areas;

AWARE that demographic growth and urbanization have resulted in an increased demand for electricity and wood-fuel;

AGREEING that there is emerging awareness on the technical and economical feasibility of exploiting the regions huge renewable energy potential;

AWARE that market trends indicate a consistent price reduction for renewable energy technologies making them more competitive and offering opportunities for the diversification of the Region's energy sources;

CONVINCED that Energy is a resource, a collective service, and at the same time, a production factor of multisectorial dimension that lies at the heart of any socio-economic development process and essential for meeting fundamental human needs (food, health, education, etc.),

CONSCIOUS of the need to improve energy security, increase access to modern energy services and support the region's economic and social development in an environmentally benign manner through the promotion and use of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies in ECOWAS member states;

Upon recommendations of the experts meeting held in Bamako, Mali, from 19 -21 March 2012;

THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF ENERGY

DECIDES

ARTICLE 1

The Member States and the regional organization (ECOWAS) commit themselves to engage in the ECOWAS Bioenergy Strategy Framework, which is part of the objectives of the White Paper ECOWAS / UEMOA to increase access to energy services for populations rural, and peri-and its Plan of Action and strategy implementation.

The overall objective of the ECOWAS Bioenergy Strategy Framework is to enhance the sustainable Bioenergy production and use within the Region that help address energy



poverty, particularly in the rural and peri-urban populations, promotes food security, safeguard the environment, and enabling domestic and foreign investments, thereby contributing to:

- universal access to modern energy services, especially in the rural and peri-urban areas by 2030
- A more sustainable and safe provision of domestic energy services for cooking thus achieving the objectives of the White Paper for access to modern energy services by 2020 and
- Increasing food security within the region.

The primary objectives are to:

- Promote the transition from the traditional use of biomass towards a modern, efficient production and use of modern Bioenergy;
- broaden regional dialogue and peer-to-peer learning to support the development of Bioenergy strategies in the ECOWAS Member States and,
- Promote regional policy planning for Bioenergy harmonized with national policies;
- sensitize and share experiences on modern sustainable Bioenergy production that also promotes food security;
- create a vibrant and sustainable modern Bioenergy sector that promotes economic growth, rural development, and poverty alleviation.

ARTICLE 2

The Main Action Points for the implementation of the Bioenergy Strategy Framework

The implementation of the Regional Bioenergy Strategy Framework would be premised on the following key components:

- Resource Assessment and Planning through assessment of Resources and mapping, cataloguing experiences and sharing of experiences;
- Policies and Strategies development for bioenergy products and services, including legal and regulatory frameworks, and standards and labels;
- Knowledge sharing for information dissemination and awareness creation;
- Capacity building for relevant public and private institutions and agencies to provide the necessary human resources for technology transfer and employment creation; and
- Financing mechanisms and resource mobilization to assist the deployment of sustainable Bioenergy products and services.
- The civil society and private sector will be important partners in the implementation of the framework



- Linkages between bioenergy, food security and integrated water management will be made

ARTICLE 3

The **ECOWAS Bioenergy Strategy Framework** is hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 4

The **ECOWAS Commission** should mobilise the necessary financial resources for the implementation of the Strategy Framework.

ARTICLE 5

The **ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)** is mandated to ensure effective coordination of Member States and Development Partners for the implementation of the ECOWAS Bioenergy Strategy Framework.

DONE IN ACCRA, THIS 31ST DAY OF OCTOBER 2012

FOR THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF ENERGY

THE CHAIRMAN