Four point Agenda of the Chairperson of ECOWAS 2016/2017

Below is a summarized four-point agenda of the Chairperson of ECOWAS’ acceptance speech:

***“We can take pride in the high potential of our Community for a vibrant integrated market which is currently estimated at the equivalent of US$1.3 trillion produced by a wide range of activities in agriculture, commerce, industry and services.***

***In this context, four continuing priorities on which we could consolidate progress during the next year, through cooperation and collaboration of our Community institutions and the support of our development partners.***

1. ***Consolidate the sub-region’s peace and security architecture***
2. ***Stem terrorism, strengthen intelligence capacity***
3. ***Manage transhumance***
4. ***Democratic consolidation***
5. ***Enhance coordination with sister Regional Economic Communities (RECs) of the African Union, the United Nations and other partner institutions.***
6. ***Conclude negotiations and legal actions to enhance trade integration***
7. ***Common External Tariff (CET)***
8. ***ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLS)***
9. ***Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)***
10. ***Achieve transformation of ECOWAS Vision 2020 through agriculture and infrastructure***
11. ***Enhanced through acceleration of the several ongoing regional projects in roads, energy, and railroads.***
12. ***Agricultural programs should consider innovative ways of integrating young people to minimize youth unemployment.***
13. ***Air services connectivity to provide cost effective movement of citizens***
14. ***Increased trade, and tourism, as called for by the Yamoussoukro Declaration and Decision.***

1. ***Improve Financial Stability.***
2. ***Through contribution of the Community levy by Member States.***
3. ***Cost saving through continued rationalization and reduction in the multiple activities and high benefits of community institutions***
4. ***Institute a Call to Action to finalize the ongoing review of the restructuring of Community institutions***
5. ***Mobilise collaborative support from bilateral and regional entities and for joint ventures and partnership with the private sector.”***

**Dakar, June 4, 2016**