



**SEVENTY EIGHTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ECOWAS  
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

Monrovia, 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017

**REGULATION C/REG.12/06/17 ON ORGANIZATION AND  
OPERATION OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE FOR METROLOGY**

**THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,**

**MINDFUL** Article 10, 11 and 12 under ECOWAS Revised Treaty as amended on the Creation of the Council of Ministers and which defines its structure and functions,

**MINDFUL** Article 26, paragraph 3 (l) of the Revised Treaty, which provides that Member States shall adopt common standards and adequate quality control systems,

**MINDFUL** the Supplementary Act A/SA.1/02/13 on the adoption of ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL) and its implementation framework,

**MINDFUL** the Supplementary Act A/SA.2/07/10 on the adoption of West African Common Industrial Policy (WACIP) and its action plan;

**MINDFUL** Regulation C/REG.19/12/13 on the Approval of ECOWAS Regional Infrastructure Quality Scheme;

**MINDFUL** Regulation C/REG.14/12/12 on the adoption of harmonizing procedures of ECOWAS Standards (ECOSHAM);

**CONSIDERING** that metrology is an essential activity in promoting quality products and services;

**CONSIDERING** that in general, ECOWAS Member States are experiencing a serious delay in setting international standards for their national metrology systems;

**CONSIDERING** that funding metrology activities is expensive and that there is a need to pool resources available at regional level in order to use them in more rational and optimal way;

**ON THE RECOMMENDATION** of the Meeting of Ministers in charge of Quality of the ECOWAS held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017. *[Signature]*

## ENACTS

### CHAPTER I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### SECTION I: DEFINITIONS AND PURPOSE

##### ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS

The definitions of the "International Vocabulary of Metrology -Basic and general concepts and associated terms (VIM)" of the Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology (JCGM), in its latest edition, are to be considered.

##### ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

This Regulation lays down the rules for the organization and functioning of the Community Committee for Metrology (CCM) established by Article 7 of Regulation C / REG / 12/13 on the adoption of the Regional Quality Infrastructure Scheme of ECOWAS.

#### SECTION II: OBJECTIVES, MISSIONS, FUNCTIONS

##### ARTICLE 3: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Community Committee for Metrology are:

- a) Assist the ECOWAS Commission and the Member States in establishing appropriate legal and institutional frameworks in the field of metrology;
- b) Contribute to the creation of regional expertise in metrology;
- c) Facilitate at the regional level the policy of cooperation between Member States in the field of metrology;
- d) Propose to the Member States any appropriate policy for the establishment of metrology institutes, repair and instrumentation centers, calibration and traceability systems.

##### ARTICLE 4: MISSIONS

1. The Community Committee for Metrology has an advisory role to the ECOWAS Commission in carrying out activities relating to metrology as defined in the ECOWAS Quality Policy. *W*

2. In order to implement the policies proposed and validated by the ECOWAS Commission, the Community Committee for Metrology shall rely on the Regional Quality Organism mandated for this purpose in the framework a Memorandum of Understanding under paragraph 12, section 4 of the ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL) adopted by the Supplementary Act A/SA.1/02/13.

#### **ARTICLE 5: FUNCTIONS**

1. The Community Committee for Metrology, in liaison with the Regional Quality Organism, shall carry out the following activities:


- a) Promotion of metrology

- i. Provide metrology training and awareness services to National Metrology Institutes (NMIs), industry, consumer associations, civil society, journalists and policy makers;
- ii. ensure that adequate training programs in metrology are available and implemented in Member States;
- iii. Promote the accession of Member States to the regional and international metrology bodies;
- iv. Promote consistent interpretation and application of normative documents and propose measures to facilitate their implementation;
- v. Develop and operate a database on regional facilities, services and staff and the results of inter-laboratory comparisons;
- vi. Be a crucible for cooperation and coordination of ECOWAS metrology projects and major investments in metrology facilities in the region.

- b) Scientific and industrial metrology

- i. Collaborate with research centers in scientific metrology research and for the definitions of units of measure;
- ii. Ensure uniformity and correct use of International System (SI) units of measurement in the region for industry and trade;
- iii. Ensure that an effective industrial metrology system is established and that measurements made in the industries are precise, accurate and reliable.

- c) Removal of technical barriers to trade 

- i. develop an appropriate legal framework for the establishment of National Metrology Institutes (NMIs) and ensure that appropriate laws on metrology are taken and implemented in the Member States;
  - ii. Harmonize the requirements for type approval, homologation, certificates, legislation and regulations, verification procedures and testing techniques for measuring instruments in the region;
  - iii. Create an enabling environment within qualified National Metrology Institutes of Member States to conclude mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) in a coherent framework with various international organizations.
- d) Traceability of standards
- i. Ensure that standards and measuring instruments used in Member States are periodically connected to international and national primary standards;
  - ii. Organize and promote the participation of laboratories in inter-comparisons and support the free circulation of metrological artefacts used for comparisons;
  - iii. Promote the participation of NMIs of Member States in the Mutual Recognition Arrangement of the International Conference of Weights and Measures (MRA CIPM).
- e) Standardization of units of measure
- i. promote the harmonization of the use of units of measure of the International System (SI) in the region;
  - ii. Ensure the traceability of the units of measure to the International System (SI) through accredited reference laboratories for all measures in the region.
- f) Maintenance of measuring instruments
- i. Encourage Member States to establish qualified repair and instrumentation centers to provide regular repair and maintenance services for measuring instruments.
  - ii. Technical and operational implementation of the metrology policies shall be entrusted to the Regional Quality Organism mandated for this purpose in the framework of a memorandum of understanding pursuant to paragraph 4 of point 12 of the ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL) adopted by the Supplementary Act A/SA.1/02/13. 

## **ARTICLE 6: MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE FOR METROLOGY**

1. The Community Committee for Metrology is composed of permanent and affiliated members defined as follows:
  - a) Permanent members are:
    - i. Representatives of the Member States Directors of the National Metrology Institutes (NMIs); where appropriate, representatives of national metrology laboratories or metrology technicians officials;
    - ii. two representatives of the private sector specialized in the field of metrology;
    - iii. One representative of the Consumer Rights Bodies recognized by the ECOWAS Commission.
  - b) Affiliated members are representatives of the institutions or bodies of non-ECOWAS Member States directly involved in carrying out metrology activities or any other body with similar functions.
2. The Community Committee for Metrology shall be composed of eighteen (18) members distributed as follows:
  - a) Ex officio members are the fifteen representatives of the Member States;
  - b) Designated Members by the concerned organizations are:
    - i. the two representatives of the private sector specialized in metrology,
    - ii. The representative of consumer rights organizations recognized by the ECOWAS Commission.

## **CHAPTER II: ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION**

### **SECTION I: ORGANIZATION**

#### **ARTICLE 7: ORGANS**

- a) The Office of the President;
- b) The Permanent Secretariat;
- c) The Working Groups.


#### **ARTICLE 8: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

1. There shall be a President of the Community Committee for Metrology, assisted by a Vice-President. The President and Vice-President shall be 

appointed from among and by the members of the Committee by election.

2. The Presidency shall ensure of:
  - a) the development and consolidation of the regional metrology vision;
  - b) the development and coordination of regional and national policies,
  - c) the relevance of the strategies and orientations adopted;
  - d) the approval of programs of activities;
  - e) The consistency of the activities carried out in the framework of the ECOWAS Quality Policy (ECOQUAL).
3. In case of absence, the President is replaced by the Vice President.
4. The President and the Vice President shall hold their offices for a period of three-year renewable.
5. The President chairs all meetings of the Committee. He is assisted by the Vice-President and two rapporteurs for each session.
6. The President shall determine the draft agenda of each session taking into account the demands of all members or of the ECOWAS Commission.
7. He shall report regularly to the Permanent Secretariat on all the activities of the Committee.
8. He shall ensure the implementation of the outcome of the sessions and the approval of the minutes of the meetings held by the Permanent Secretariat.
9. The President represents the Community Committee for Metrology with respect to third parties.

#### **ARTICLE 9: WORKING GROUPS**

1. Working Groups (WGs) are the implementation unit of the CCM through the Regional Quality Organism. They work on specific tasks in metrology. Each WG is composed of metrology technicians from Member States, preferably NMIs.
2. Each Working Group shall elect from among its members present at the first meeting, a Chairman and a Rapporteur.
3. The activities of the WGs are monitored by the President of the Community Committee for Metrology on the basis of reports produced by the Regional 

Quality Organism.

4. The reports of the Working Groups are sent to the President by the Regional Quality Organism and presented at the meetings of the CCM.
5. In carrying out its tasks, the CCM may set up working groups, in liaison with the Regional Quality Organism, to deal with specific issues. The Working Groups are set up according to the nature of the products or the activities to be carried out.

#### **ARTICLE 10: PERMANENT SECRETARIAT**

1. The Regional Quality Organism shall be responsible for the Permanent Secretariat of the CCM as mandated for this purpose in the framework of a Memorandum of Understanding pursuant to Section 12 paragraph 4 of Supplementary Act A/SA.1/02/13 on adoption of the ECOWAS Quality Policy.
2. The Permanent Secretariat shall:
  - a) assist the Chairman of the Committee in the Organization of the meetings of the General Assemblies of all meetings of the Committee;
  - b) assist the rapporteurs at meetings of the Committee;
  - c) follow the progress of the work undertaken by the Committee in collaboration with the President;
  - d) contribute to the establishment of working groups;
  - e) manage all common relationships, especially between the members of the Committee, the ECOWAS Commission and external partners;
  - f) Ensure the participation of the Committee in all meetings of ECOWAS relating to quality, to the functioning of the common market, the safety of consumers and the protection of the environment.
3. The Permanent Secretariat is the custodian of the various acts and archives Committee.

#### **SECTION II: OPERATION OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE FOR METROLOGY.**

#### **ARTICLE 11: RULES OF PROCEDURES**

All other terms of organization and operation of the Community Committee for Metrology, including the organization and operation of the working groups are specified in the rules of procedure.

#### **ARTICLE 12: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

An enabling rule shall set forth modalities for funding the Community Council for Metrology.

### **CHAPTER III: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

#### **ARTICLE 13: CONFIDENTIALITY**

1. Members of the Committee, observers, resource persons and members of working groups are bound to secrecy on the content of the discussions during the meetings.
2. The draft documents of the Community Committee for Metrology are restricted unless otherwise decided by the President of the Community Committee for Metrology.

#### **ARTICLE 14: COOPERATION IN METROLOGY**

1. The Community Metrology Committee, in collaboration with the Regional Quality Organism, organizes modalities of cooperation between the Member States and the ECOWAS Commission and other regional and international trading blocs.
2. Cooperation in the field of metrology should facilitate national regulations regarding legal metrology.
3. The Community Committee for Metrology shall:
  - a) Develop and maintain mutual trust between legal metrology services in the Region;
  - b) Achieve and maintain the equivalence of Legal Metrology activities in the Region;
  - c) Identify and eliminate technical and administrative barriers to trade in the field of measuring instruments; *AK*



- d) Promote a consistent interpretation and application of normative documents and propose actions to facilitate their implementation;
- e) Develop a close partnership with any program on metrology carried out in the region;
- f) Promote cooperation with experts working on other programs developed in the region.

**ARTICLE 15: REPEAL / REVISION**

- 1. This present text repeals and replaces all earlier contrary provisions.
- 2. If a Member State wishes to revise this regulation, it shall notify the President of the Commission with a reasoned request.

**ARTICLE 16: ENTRY IN FORCE AND PUBLICATION**

This Regulation shall enter into force after its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Journal thirty (30) days after notification by the Commission.

**DONE IN MONROVIA, THIS 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2017**

  
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**MARJON V. KAMARA**

**THE CHAIRPERSON,  
FOR THE COUNCIL**

SIGNED ON THIS 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF June ..... 2017 AT MONROVIA