

## Community of Sahel-Saharan States Revised Treaty

We, the Heads of State and/or Government of :

- The Republic of Benin,
- Burkina Faso,
- The Central African Republic,
- The Union of the Comoros;
- The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire,
- The Republic of Djibouti,
- The Arab Republic of Egypt,
- The State of Eritrea,
- The Republic of Ghana,
- The Republic of Guinea,
- The Republic of Kenya,
- The State of Libya,
- The Republic of Mali,
- The Islamic Republic of Mauritania,
- The Kingdom of Morocco,
- The Republic of Niger,
- The Federal Republic of Nigeria,
- The Republic of Senegal,
- The Republic of Sierra Leone,
- The Republic of Sudan,
- The Federal Republic of Somalia,
- The Republic of Chad,
- The Togolese Republic,
- The Tunisian Republic

meeting in N'Djamena (Chad) in Extraordinary Session:

- Reaffirming our deep commitment to the ideals, principles and purposes of the United Nations;
- Reiterating the adherence of our States to the principles and objectives of human rights, as proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- Deeply committed to the principles of democracy, governance and the rule of law;

- Conscious of the need to develop together all the human and natural resources of our States and to put them at the service of the general well-being of the populations in all fields;
- Convinced that joint action in complementarity is the best way for the integration of our States and our peoples;
- Concerned to preserve peace, stability and security in the Sahel-Saharan space;
- Considering the Treaty of 4 February 1998 establishing the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD);
- Bearing in mind the Plan of Action and the Lagos Final Act of April 1980, in particular the measures aimed at the economic, social and cultural development of Africa and defining, inter alia, those relating to the creation of subregional structures and the strengthening of existing structures with a view to the gradual and progressive establishment of an African Economic Community;
- Recognizing that efforts towards regional co-operation should neither hinder nor impede other similar efforts to promote the economic integration of the continent and an African common market as a prelude to an African Economic Community;
- Determined to give concrete expression to the desire for economic, political, cultural and social integration in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Abuja Treaty of 1991;
- Determined to continue the work accomplished by CEN-SAD, ensuring and deepening its achievements.

Decide to adopt the present revised Treaty of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and agree on the following:

## **Chapter 1. Definitions :**

### **Article 1.**

For the purposes of this Treaty :

"Member State":

Any Member State of the Community ;

"Community":

The Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD);

"State of the Sahel-Saharan Zone": Any State bordering the Sahara and the Sahel;

"State of the periphery of the Sahel-Saharan Zone":

Any State bordering a State of the Sahel-Saharan Zone or which is attached to it;

"Conference":

The Conference of Heads of State and/or Government provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"President of the Conference":

The current President of the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government of the Community elected in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of this Treaty;

"Executive Council":

The Council of Ministers of the Community provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives":

The Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives of the Member States provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"Economic Council":

The Economic, Social and Cultural Council provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"Executive Secretariat":

The Executive Secretariat provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty,

"Bank."

The Sahelo-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"Permanent Peace and Security Council":

The Permanent Peace and Security Council provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"Permanent Council for Sustainable Development":

The Permanent Council for Sustainable Development provided for in Article 9 of this Treaty;

"CEN-SAD Security Charter":

Charter adopted in N'Djamena in February 2000 by the Member States of CEN-SAD;

"Committee of High-Level Inspectors":

The Committee responsible for the financial audit of the Community provided for in Article 46 of this Treaty;

"Bodies": The bodies provided for in Article 9(1) of this Treaty;

"Institutions" means the institutions provided for in Article 9(2) of this Treaty.

## **Chapter II. Establishment, Objectives and Principles**

### **Section I. Establishment and Composition of the Community**

#### **Article 2.**

By this Revised Treaty, the High Contracting Parties reaffirm the establishment of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD).

The members of the Community, hereinafter referred to as the Member States, shall be the States of the Sahel-Saharan Zone or of the periphery of the Sahel-Saharan Zone, members of the United Nations, which have accepted the objectives of the Community and which have ratified this Treaty.

### **Section II. Objectives of the Community**

#### **Article 3.**

CEN-SAD shall focus its action in two major areas: regional security and sustainable development. To this end, it shall pursue in particular the following objectives:

- a. the preservation and consolidation of peace, security and stability in the CEN-SAD zone;
- b. Promotion of political dialogue and the fight against cross-border crime and its related scourges such as trafficking in drugs, arms and human beings, money-laundering and terrorism;
- c. combating desertification, drought and climate change through the preservation of natural resources and research in the field of renewable energies;
- d. economic, commercial, scientific and socio-cultural cooperation;
- e. infrastructure development;
- f. the promotion of the free movement of persons, goods and services.

These objectives will be attained by all appropriate means, including through Community sectoral policies adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government by means of an additional protocol.

## **Section III. Fundamental Principles of the Community**

### **Article 4.**

In pursuit of the objectives set out in Article 3 of this Treaty, and in accordance with Article 4 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the relevant provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community signed in Abuja (Nigeria) on 3 June 1991, the Member States agree to adhere to the following principles:

- a. Equality and interdependence of Member States :
- b. Solidarity among Member States;
- c. Inter-State cooperation, harmonization of policies and programmes among Member States;
- d. non-aggression among Member States;
- e. recognition, promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights, in accordance with the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- f. Accountability, Economic Justice and Popular Participation in Development;
- g. Recognition and respect for the rule of law;
- h. Promotion and maintenance of a democratic system of government in each Member State;
- i. maintenance of peace and regional stability through the promotion and strengthening of the policy of good neighbourliness;
- j. peaceful settlement of disputes between Member States and the promotion of a peaceful environment as a basis for the development of the region.

## **Section IV. General Commitments**

### **Article 5.**

In order to give effect to these fundamental principles, the Member States undertake to :

- a. to prevent the use of their territories for activities directed against the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States of the Community through the revised Security Charter ;
- b. revise the Security Charter with a view to ensuring peace and stability, which are necessary conditions for achieving the Community's objectives;
- c. to help each other when necessary and to cooperate in all fields in a spirit of solidarity and fraternity;
- d. guarantee security at their respective borders and refrain from interfering in each other's internal affairs or attacking another Member State;
- e. refrain from any measure which might jeopardize the attainment of the objectives of the Community;
- f. grant the Community and its officials the privileges and immunities recognised by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961;
- g. harmonize, as far as possible, their positions on major issues affecting the priority areas of Community action.

### **Article 6.**

In the event of serious breaches of general undertakings by a State of its obligations under this Treaty, the Conference shall refer the matter to it for discussion and appropriate decision.

## **Chapter III. The Institutional System of the Community**

### **Section I. Status of the Community**

## **Article 7.**

The Community shall have legal personality. It shall possess in the territory of each of the Member States :

- (a) the legal capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions under this Treaty;
- (b) the capacity to engage in legal proceedings, to conclude contracts and to acquire, enjoy or dispose of movable and immovable property.

In the enjoyment of its legal personality, as defined in this Article, the Community shall be represented by the Executive Secretary acting in accordance with the directives addressed to him/her by the Executive Council or the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government.

## **Section II. Cooperation**

### **Article 8.**

The Community shall, with the authorization of the Executive Council, establish any useful cooperation with international, regional or sub-regional organizations. It may call for technical or financial assistance from any State or any international organization which accepts such assistance to the extent that it is compatible with the objectives defined in this Treaty.

Cooperation and assistance agreements may be concluded with third States or international organizations, in accordance with arrangements to be defined by the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government.

## **Section III. Organs and Institutions of the Community**

### **Article 9.**

The bodies and institutions of the Community shall consist of:

1. Bodies :

- a. The Conference of Heads of State and/or Government :
- b. The Executive Council ;
- c. The Permanent Peace and Security Council;
- d. The Permanent Council for Sustainable Development;
- e. The Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives ;
- f. The Executive Secretariat ;
- g. Or any body which may be established by the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government under an additional protocol.

2. Institutions :

- a. The Economic, Social and Cultural Council ;
- b. The Sahel-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade :
- c. or any other institution which may be established by the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government under an additional protocol.

These organs and specialized agencies shall act within the limits of the powers conferred on them by this Treaty and in accordance with the conditions and procedures laid down herein.

## **Part 1. The Conference of Heads of State and/or Government**

### **Article 10.**

The Conference of Heads of State and/or Government is the supreme organ of the Community. It shall be responsible for guiding and supervising integration policy.

It shall meet in ordinary session once a year. It may meet in extraordinary session on the initiative of its President or at the request of a Member State, subject to the approval of that request by an absolute majority of the Member States.

The chairmanship of the Conference shall be held annually by one of the Heads of State and/or Government designated by their peers.

### **Article 11.**

As the supreme organ of the Community, the Conference is responsible for the overall direction and control of the Community. In this capacity it :

- a. defines the broad lines of Community policy;
- b. gives guidelines for the harmonization and coordination of policies in the priority areas of Community action;
- c. supervises the operation of the Community's institutions and monitors the achievement of the Community's objectives;
- d. appoint the Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty;
- e. adopt the budget of the Community as well as complementary programmes and plans;
- f. approve its rules of procedure and those of the Executive Council;
- g. approve the organization chart of the Executive Secretariat, the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure for the staff of the Executive Secretariat;
- h. decide on issues that have not been resolved within the Executive Council.

### **Article 12.**

The Conference shall act by means of an Act. It may also adopt resolutions, formulate recommendations and make declarations.

The acts of the Conference shall be general in scope and shall be binding on the Member States and on the institutions of the Community.

The Conference shall deliberate by consensus; in the event of an application for accession by a new State or a proposal for revision of the Treaty, it shall act unanimously.

### **Article 13.**

The Conference of Heads of State and/or Government may, on the recommendation of the Executive Council, adopt Additional Protocols to supplement and clarify this Treaty. The said Protocols adopted unanimously shall have the same value as the provisions of the Treaty. They shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of Article 54(3) of this Treaty.

## **Part 2. The Executive Council**

### **Article 14.**

The Executive Council shall be the governing body responsible for supervising the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government. It shall be composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States or any other Minister designated by the Member State.

### **Article 15.**

The Council shall be responsible for ensuring the proper functioning and development of the Community. To this end, and save as otherwise provided in the Treaty, it shall :

- a. make recommendations for the approval of the Conference on any action designed to achieve the objectives of the Community within the framework of the general policy and broad guidelines laid down and adopted by the Conference;
- b. submit to the Conference the draft budget of the Community and propose to it the annual contribution of each Member State;
- c. shall prepare complementary programmes and plans for the development of the Community;
- d. endorse the recommendations and work of the Sectoral Ministerial Committees or any subsidiary bodies which may be set up under this Treaty and submit them to the Conference for approval;
- e. prepare the sessions of the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government;
- f. propose the agenda of the Conference.

## **Article 16.**

The Executive Council shall meet in ordinary session two (2) times a year. One of its sessions shall precede the ordinary session of the Assembly. It may be convened in extraordinary session on the initiative of its Chairman or at the request of a Member State, subject to the approval of such request by an absolute majority of the Member States.

The deliberations of the Executive Council shall be prepared by the Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives assisted by experts. The Executive Secretariat shall be represented at meetings of the Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives. The Committee shall adopt opinions by an absolute majority of its members present and forward them to the Council.

The Presidency of the Council shall be held by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member State whose Head of State and/or Government holds the Presidency of the Conference.

## **Article 17.**

The Executive Council shall take decisions and deliberate by consensus. In the absence of consensus, it shall deliberate by a qualified majority of two-thirds of the Member States present and voting.

The Executive Council may also formulate recommendations and give opinions in accordance with its competences contained in Article 15 of this Treaty.

## **Article 18.**

Sectoral ministerial meetings may be convened of Ministers whose department is responsible for a matter requiring specific consideration. The deliberations of these sectoral ministerial meetings shall be endorsed by the Executive Council and forwarded to the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government. The deliberations of the sectoral Ministerial Committees are prepared by the Committee of Sectoral Experts composed of representatives of Member States.

# **Part 3. The Permanent Peace and Security Council**

## **Article 19.**

The Permanent Peace and Security Council is the Community body responsible for coordinating and strengthening the achievement of the objectives and implementation of Community actions and programmes relating to the maintenance of peace and security.

## **Article 20.**

The Permanent Peace and Security Council shall meet in ordinary session twice a year. It may be convened in extraordinary session on the initiative of its President or at the request of one of the Member States of the Community.

## **Article 21.**

The Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government, on the proposal of the Executive Council, shall, at the appropriate time, determine the composition, organization and functioning rules of the said Council.

## **Part 4. The Permanent Council In Charge of Sustainable Development**

### **Article 22.**

The Permanent Council for Sustainable Development is the Community body responsible for coordinating, strengthening the achievement of objectives and implementing Community actions and programmes relating to sustainable development.

### **Article 23.**

The Permanent Council for Sustainable Development shall meet in ordinary session twice a year. It may be convened in extraordinary session on the initiative of its President or at the request of one of the Member States of the Community.

### **Article 24.**

The Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government, on the proposal of the Executive Council, shall, at the appropriate time, determine the composition, rules of organization and functioning of the said Council.

## **Part 5. The Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives**

### **Article 25.**

The Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives is the consultative body attached to the Community's governing bodies.

It shall be composed of the Permanent Representatives of the Member States residing at the seat of the Community or any other accredited plenipotentiary. As a transitional measure, a Member State which is not represented at the seat may designate another country to represent it.

### **Article 26.**

The Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives shall be responsible, with the assistance of experts, for the following tasks:

- a. preparing the deliberations of the Executive Council ;
- b. examining the draft budget prepared by the Executive Secretariat and submitting recommendations to the Executive Council thereon;
- c. to examine, in close collaboration with the relevant departments of the Executive Secretariat, matters relating to the Community's programmes and projects, in particular those relating to sustainable development and peace and security;
- d. participate in the preparation of the Community's programme of activities;
- e. to make written recommendations to the Executive Secretariat for the attention of the Member States on areas of common interest, in particular on issues on the agenda of the Executive Council;
- f. facilitate communication between the Executive Secretariat and the Governments of the Member States of the Community.

### **Article 27.**

The Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives shall draw up rules of procedure for organizing its activities and meetings.

## **Part 6. The Executive Secretariat**



## **Article 28.**

The Executive Secretariat shall be the organ for the execution of decisions taken by the management organs of CEN-SAD. It shall be placed under the authority of an Executive Secretary assisted by a Deputy Executive Secretary, staff and officials necessary for the proper functioning of the Community.

## **Article 29.**

The seat of the Executive Secretariat shall be in the city of Tripoli in Libya, the seat of the Community. A headquarters agreement shall be concluded between the Executive Secretariat and the State of Libya setting out the rights and obligations of the parties and the privileges and immunities provided for in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961.

## **Article 30.**

The Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government for a term of four years renewable once, taking into account the principle of equitable rotation among the different geographical regions. They shall not be from the same geographical region.

The heads of departments shall be appointed by the Executive Council on the proposal of the Executive Secretary on the basis of criteria of competence, moral integrity and geographical distribution. They shall bear the title of department directors.

## **Article 31.**

The Executive Secretary shall be the principal executive administrator of the Community. In this capacity, he shall have the following mission:

- a. to ensure the implementation of this Treaty, the conventions and decisions of the Community ;
- b. to prepare and execute the decisions and directives of the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government and the Executive Council;
- c. to promote and implement Community development programmes and projects;
- d. to establish the draft budget of the Community and ensure its implementation ;
- e. to establish annually the Community action programme:
- f. to present a report on the activities of the Community to all meetings of the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government and the Executive Council;
- g. to prepare the meetings of the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government and the Executive Council and to provide the secretariat for these bodies;
- h. to carry out studies with a view to achieving the objectives of the Community and to make proposals likely to contribute to the functioning and harmonious development of the Community. To this end, it may request a Member State to supply it with all necessary information;
- i. to conclude on behalf of the Community cooperation agreements with other organizations or States after prior approval by the Executive Council;
- j. to define and implement the Community's communication strategy for the benefit of the people;
- k. to recruit the staff of the Executive Secretariat and to appoint staff to functions other than those devolved to the Conference or the Executive Council.

## **Article 32.**

The Deputy Executive Secretary, under the supervision of the Executive Secretary, shall be particularly responsible for :

- a. administrative and financial co-ordination;

b. the supervision of the implementation of projects and programmes;

c. any task that may be delegated to him by the Executive Secretary,

The Deputy Executive Secretary shall act as Acting Executive Secretary in case of absence and/or impediment.

### **Article 33.**

The Executive Secretariat shall comprise the following departments:

- Peace and Security Department ;
- Department of Economic and Commercial Affairs;
- Department of Legal Affairs;
- Department of Rural Development and Environment;
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Energy and Information and Communication Technologies;
- Department of Education, Health and Social Affairs: Department of Administration and Finance;
- Department of Sports, Culture and the Arts;
- Office of Internal Audit.

The Conference of Heads of State and/or Government may change the number and names of the departments.

### **Article 34.**

The members of the Executive Secretariat shall exercise their functions under the authority of the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government and the Executive Council. They shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any Government or any body. No individual Member State may give them instructions.

During their term of office, they shall not engage in any other professional activity, whether remunerated or not. They may, however, engage in literary, artistic and scientific activities.

### **Article 35.**

During their term of office, the Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary shall be irrevocable, except in the case of gross misconduct, disregard of duties related to the exercise of the functions of a member of the Executive Secretariat or incapacity established by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government.

In case of interruption of mandate, the person concerned shall be replaced for the remainder of his or her term of office. Except in the case of dismissal or resignation, the Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary shall remain in office until they are replaced.

### **Article 36.**

The organisation and functioning of the Executive Secretariat shall be specified by internal regulations and other specific community texts.

## **Part 7. The Economic, Social and Cultural Council**

### **Article 37.**

The Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall have a consultative role. It shall be composed of three representatives per Member State covering the various categories of economic, social and cultural activities.

It shall be headed by a President elected by his peers in plenary session, assisted by a Bureau consisting of a Vice-President and a Rapporteur-General elected in the same way and of Commission Chairmen elected by their respective Commissions. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be appointed taking into account the principle of equitable rotation between the different geographical regions. They shall not be from the same geographical region.

### **Article 38.**

The members of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be appointed for a term of three years renewable once. They shall be irrevocable for the duration of their term of office except in the case of incompatibility of functions or gross misconduct established by the Economic, Social and Cultural Council. Their disqualification shall be pronounced by the plenary assembly of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council.

### **Article 39.**

The seat of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be in Bamako, Mali. A headquarters agreement shall be concluded between the Executive Secretariat and the Republic of Mali setting out the rights and obligations of the parties as well as the privileges and immunities provided for in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961.

### **Article 40.**

The powers, organisation and functioning of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be defined by an Act of the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government.

The Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

## **Part 8. The Sahel-saharan Bank for Investment and Trade**

### **Article 41.**

The Sahel-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade is a specialized institution of the Community.

The Bank's decision-making bodies shall take the necessary steps to adapt the Convention of 14 April 1999 establishing this institution to the provisions of the preceding paragraph.

### **Article 42.**

The headquarters of the Sahel-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade shall be in Tripoli, Libya. A headquarters agreement shall be concluded between the Executive Secretariat and the State of Libya setting out the rights and obligations of the parties.

as well as the privileges and immunities provided for in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 18 April 1961.

### **Article 43.**

The functions, organization and operation of the Sahelo-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade shall be set out in the revised Convention establishing the Sahelo-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade.

### **Article 44.**

The Executive Secretary shall attend meetings of the decision-making bodies of the Bank as an observer.

## **Chapter IV. The Financial Regime of the Community**

### **Section I. General Provisions**

### **Article 45.**

The Conference shall adopt the budget of the Community submitted by the Executive Council on the proposal of the Executive Secretariat before the beginning of the financial year, after its examination by the Committee of Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives assisted by experts.

The budget shall be implemented by the Executive Secretariat.

## **Article 46.**

On the proposal of the Executive Secretariat, the Executive Council shall adopt financial regulations specifying, in particular, the modalities for the preparation and execution of the budget as well as the rules for the presentation and auditing of accounts.

For the purpose of controlling the implementation of the budget, the Executive Council shall appoint six high ranking inspectors chosen from among the States up to the date of their contribution for a non-renewable term of three years. These inspectors may not come from the States of which the Executive Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary, the Director of Administration and Finance, the Comptroller and the Principal Accountant are nationals.

The financial regulations shall establish the rule of separation of authorising officers and accounting officers.

## **Article 47.**

The financial year starts on January 1st and ends on December 31st of each year.

In case the budget could not be adopted before the beginning of the financial year, expenditure may be made monthly within the limit of one twelfth of the appropriations of the budget of the previous financial year.

## **Section II. Community Resources**

### **Article 48.**

Budgetary resources shall be derived from the annual contributions of Member States and any other resources determined by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government on the proposal of the Executive Council. The contributions of Member States shall be determined on the basis of the budget submitted by the Executive Council.

The method of calculating State contributions and the currencies in which they shall be paid shall be determined by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government on the proposal of the Executive Council.

### **Article 49.**

The Community may, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Financial Regulation and after approval by the Executive Council, have recourse to loans, grants and external aid compatible with its objectives.

Measures adopted in this context must be approved by the Executive Council before they take effect.

## **Section III. Sanctions**

### **Article 50.**

Any Member State of the Community which is in arrears in the payment of its contributions to the budgets of the Community and which is in a situation where its arrears are equal to or greater than the contribution due by that Member State for the last two (2) financial years shall be deprived of certain rights in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government.

## **Chapter V. Miscellaneous, Transitional and Final Provisions**

### **Section I. Miscellaneous Provisions**

#### **Article 51.**

The working languages of the Community shall be English, Arabic and French.

#### **Article 52.**

This Treaty shall be open for signature by the Member States.

It shall enter into force as soon as it has been ratified by at least fifteen signatory States in accordance with their constitutional rules.

### **Article 53.**

Any State of the Sahel-Saharan Space or of the periphery of the Sahel-Saharan Space may, after the entry into force of the present Revised Treaty, apply to the President of the Conference for accession to CEN-SAD. The Chairman of the Conference shall inform the Member States thereof.

Accession shall be decided by the Conference of Heads of State and/or Government unanimously.

### **Article 54.**

Any Member State may submit to the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government proposals to amend this Revised Treaty,

Any proposed modification shall be submitted in advance to the Executive Secretary who shall communicate it to the Member States no later than thirty (30) days after its receipt.

Amendments shall be approved unanimously by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government. They shall enter into force after being ratified by a majority (60% +1) of the States Parties, in accordance with their respective constitutional rules.

### **Article 55.**

This Revised Treaty may be denounced by any Member State.

Unless special provisions are adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government, it shall cease to have effect with respect to the State in question on the last day of the sixth month following the date of receipt of the denunciation by the Executive Secretariat in its capacity as depositary.

In the event of denunciation, the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government shall, by an act of the Assembly, make the adaptations to the provisions of this Treaty arising from such denunciation.

### **Article 56.**

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation or application of the provisions of the present revised Treaty shall, failing an amicable solution, be submitted for consideration by the Assembly of Heads of State and/or Government.

## **Section II. Transitional Provisions**

### **Article 57.**

The provisions of the Treaty of 4 February 1998 establishing CEN-SAD shall remain in force until the entry into force of this revised Treaty.

The Permanent Council for Peace and Security and the Permanent Council for Sustainable Development provided for in Article 9 shall be established after the adoption of this Treaty, and in any event before its entry into force.

## **Section III. Final Provisions**

### **Article 58.**

This Revised Treaty, after its entry into force, shall replace the Treaty of 4 February 1998 establishing CEN-SAD.

No provision of this Revised Treaty may be subject to reservation by a signatory or acceding State.

### **Article 59.**

The present Revised Treaty shall, as soon as it comes into force, be registered with the United Nations Organization in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter and sent for information to the African Union.

## **Article 60.**

The present Revised Treaty and all its instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the General Secretariat which shall transmit a certified copy to each signatory Member State. After its entry into force, the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Executive Secretariat.

The Executive Secretariat shall communicate to the Member States of the Community all notifications and communications concerning the Treaty, in particular ratifications and accessions.

## **Article 61.**

The present Treaty shall be adopted in N'Djamena (Chad) on February 16, the year two thousand and thirteen in the Arabic, English and French languages, the three texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have affixed their signatures to this Treaty.

Adopted at N'Djamena, 16 February 2013

Signed:

For the Republic of BENIN

His Excellency Mr Thomas Yayi BONI, President of the Republic

For the Republic of COTE D'IVOIRE

His Excellency Mr. Alassane QUATTARA, President of the Republic

For the Republic of DJIBOUTI

Her Excellency Mr Ismaél Omar GUELLEH, President of the Republic

For the BURKINA FASO

His Excellency Francois Bozizé YANGOUVONDA President of the Republic

For the Arab Republic of EGYPT

His Excellency HESHAM KANDIL, Prime Minister

For the Republic of GHANA

His Excellency Kojo Hodari-OKAE Ambassador to Libya

For the State of LIBYA

His Excellency Mr. Ali Mohamed ZEIDAN, Prime Minister

For the Republic of GAMBIA

His Excellency Mr. Yahaya JAMMEH, President of the Republic

For the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe

His Excellency Manuel Pinto DA COSTA President of the Republic

For the Republic of LIBERIA

Her Excellency Ellen Johnson SIRLEAF, President of the Republic

For the Republic of MALI

His Excellency Dioncounda TRAORE, Acting President of the Republic

For the Republic of Niger

His Excellency Mr Mahamadou ISSOUFOU, President of the Republic

For the Kingdom of Morocco

His Excellency SAAD EDDINE EL OTHMANI, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

For the Federal Republic of NIGERIA

His Excellency Goodluck Ebele JONATHAN, President of the Republic of Nigeria

For the Republic of SIERRA LEONE

His Excellency Abubakar JALLOW Ambassador to Libya

For the Federal Republic of SOMALIA

His Excellency Mr. Abdelghani Mohamed WEIS, Ambassador to Tripoli

For the Republic of CHAD

His Excellency Mr. Idriss Deby ITNO, President of the Republic

For the TUNISIAN Republic

His Excellency ABDALLAH TRIKI, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in charge of African and Arab Affairs

For the Republic of SUDAN

His Excellency Mr. Omar Hassan Ahmed EL BECHIR, President of the Republic

For the TOGOLESE REPUBLIC

His Excellency; Faure Essozimna GNASSINGBE, President of the Republic

For the Union of the COMOROS

His Excellency Mr. Noudine BOURHANE, Vice-President of the Union

For the Republic of GUINEA

His Excellency Alpha CONDE

For the Republic of GUINEA BISSAU,

His Excellency Mr. Manuel Serifo NHAMADJO, President of the Republic

For the Republic of KENYA

His Excellency Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

For the Islamic Republic of MAURITANIA

His Excellency Mohamed OULD ABDELAZIZ President of the Republic

For the State of ERITREA

Isaias AFWERKI, Head of State