



Original: English

Draft

ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Implementation Plan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS.....	2
 SECTION I: BACKGROUND.....	 4
INTRODUCTION.....	4
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF TERRORISM IN WEST AFRICA.....	7
RESPONDING TO TERRORISM IN WEST AFRICA	9
 SECTION II: STRATEGIC VISION.....	 11
PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES.....	11
GUIDING PRINCIPLES	11
DEFINITION OF TERRORISM.....	12
 SECTION III: STRATEGIC APPROACH.....	 12
PILLAR 1: PREVENT.....	13
PILLAR 2: PURSUE.....	19
PILLAR 3: RECONSTRUCT.....	25
 SECTION IV: IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS.....	 28

SECTION V: SUMMARY OF THE STRATEGY.....	32
SECTION VI: WAY FORWARD.....	33
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.....	34
LIST OF REFERENCES.....	50

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACSRT	African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism
AfCHP	African Commission on Human and People's Rights
AfDB	African Development Bank
APA	Africa Prosecutors Association
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
AQIM	Al Qaeda in the land of Islamic Maghreb
AU	African Union
BWC	Biological (or Bacteriological) Weapons Convention
CAPCCO	Central Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
CCSS	Committee for the Coordination of Security Services
CEMAC	Central Africa Economic and Monetary Community
CGCTC	Centre for Global Counter-Terrorism Cooperation
CISSA	Committee of Intelligence and Security Services in Africa
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CTBTO	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
CTC	United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee
CTED	United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
CTITF	Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force
CTTM	Counter-Terrorism Training Manual
EAC	East African Community
EAPCCO	East African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
EARPCCO	East African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOCTB	ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Bureau
ECOLIST	ECOWAS Black List of Terrorist and Criminal Networks
ECOWARN	ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Mechanism
ECOWARRANT	ECOWAS Arrest Warrant
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EUROPOL	European Police Organization

FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
GIABA	Inter-Governmental Group Against Money Laundering
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INTERPOL	International Police Organization
ISS	Institute for Security Studies
KAIPTC	Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre
MANPADS	Man-Portable Air Defence Systems
MEND	Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta
MFDC	Movement of the Democratic Forces in Casamance
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OPCW	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
PERIS	Periodic Evaluation and Reporting on the Implementation of the Strategy
REC(s)	Regional Economic Communities
RUF	Revolutionary United Front
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SARPPCO	Southern Africa Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
TNT	Trinitrotoluene
UMA	Arab Maghreb Union
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office for Crime and Drugs
UNOWA	United Nations Office for West Africa
UNPoA	United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms
UNREC	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa
WAEMU	West African Economic Monetary Union
WANEP	West Africa Network for Peace-Building
WAPCCO	West Africa Police Chiefs Committee
WCO	World Customs Organization

SECTION I

BACKGROUND

Introduction

1. Terrorism poses a serious threat to international peace, security and stability. It is a criminal act that undermines the pursuit of democracy, good governance and development, as well as the full enjoyment of human and people's rights. Attacks or even the threats of attacks have far reaching ramifications on trade, investment, tourism and the free movement of people, goods and services. It has also demonstrated aptitude for creating or entrenching social and cultural cleavages among people either on racial or religious basis. Terrorism is therefore inimical to the noble aims and objectives of the Community, particularly, the goals of promoting integration, economic development, peace, security and stability and raising the living standards of citizens in the Community, as enshrined in the Revised ECOWAS Treaty.

2. Terrorist activities in the region during the past decade have demonstrated the seriousness of the threat of terrorism to West Africa and the need for firm and sustained countermeasures. A number of Community Members have experienced various acts such as kidnapping and hostage-taking, hijacking, explosive bombing, gruesome and senseless murder and assassination and other terrorist and

mercenary attacks that have deprived citizens of the Community basic human rights including the rights to life and freedom from fear. In addition, citizens of the Community have been recruited into terrorist groups, which have committed atrocious acts around the world. Terrorism is therefore inimical to the lofty goals and principles of the Community enshrined in the Treaty of ECOWAS, and cannot, under whatever circumstances, be justified either on any political, economic, social, ethnic, cultural, religious, ideological or health reasons.

3. The Community is a diverse region of increasing openness and interdependence, allowing for free movement across borders of people, ideas, technology and resources. To this end, the internal and external aspects of security of the Community Members are inextricably linked. Terrorism in one Member State is a threat to all Member States. Terrorists and other criminal networks exploit conditions of poverty, armed conflict and political instability, bad governance and poor democracy, abuse of human rights, corruption and the absence of the rule of law to recruit, train, plan, strengthen networking, acquire materials, carry out clandestine transactions to raise funds and execute terrorist acts.

4. Community Members are confronted with a variety of challenges to peace, security, stability and development. No single Member is capable on its own to singularly deal with the multifaceted challenges posed by terrorism. The imperative for cooperation is anchored on the fact that modern terrorism is a result of globalization and a combination of communal or local variables. Coordination and

pooling of resources among states is key for effectively and efficiently eliminating the threat of terrorism. Terrorist activities, particularly those that are transnational or international in nature involve several other countries. The successful prosecution of such acts requires cooperation and joint actions among various agencies in different states. In this context, cooperation in all spheres of terrorism related-matters at the Community, continental, and international levels is essential.

5. Countering terrorism requires robust and dynamic policies that are well grounded on the rule of law, democracy and the respect for human rights. Under no circumstances should counter-terrorism be used as a justification for the violation of human and people's rights. Community Members have undertaken a number of firm and binding commitments to pursue joint and common policies in the areas of defence and security, through a number of conventions and protocols that are also applicable to the fight against terrorism. These include, inter alia:

- i. 2008 ECOWAS Protocol on the Fight against Corruption;
- ii. 2008 ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework;
- iii. 2006 ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;
- iv. 2001 Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance Supplementary to the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security;
- v. 1999 Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security;

- vi. 1994 Convention on Extradition;
- vii. 1992 ECOWAS Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters;
- viii. 1982 Convention for Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters;
- ix. 1981 Protocol on Mutual Assistance in Defence;
- x. 1978 Protocol on Non-Aggression; and the
- xi. 1977 Framework Agreement of the Protocol on Non-Aggression and Assistance in Defence.

6. In addition, the Community has adopted various decisions and strategies to fight transnational organized crimes in the region, including the ECOWAS Political Declaration and Action Plan on the Prevention of Drug Abuse, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime in West Africa, adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, in December 2008. The full and effective implementation of these instruments will contribute to minimizing the threat of terrorism to the region. In particular, Article 3 (d) of the Protocol relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Peacekeeping and Security provides for the enhancement of cooperation in the areas of conflict prevention, early warning, peacekeeping operations and control of cross-border criminality and international terrorism and the proliferation of small arms. Community Members are also bind by the OAU (Organization of African Unity) Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and its Protocol thereto, the African Union Plan of African on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa, and all other decisions and measures taken by the AU including the Comprehensive African Anti-Terrorism Model Law. The latter provides a holistic framework for

enacting counter-terrorism legislation for the domestication of regional, continental and international counter-terrorism instruments.

7. Community Members have also entered into binding agreements at the international level including the fourteen universal conventions and the four additional protocols, as well as various resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council, most notably, the landmark Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) adopted under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, and the General Assembly Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006), which provides for a global plan of action against terrorism.

8. Pursuant to these initiatives taken at the regional, continental and international levels to prevent and combat the scourge of terrorism, this Strategy is intended to provide an operational policy framework for ECOWAS counter-terrorism actions and for promoting a common regional approach to the prevention and combating of terrorism within the Community. It also seeks to harness support and resources at the continental and international levels to enhance the capabilities of Community Members to enforce their continental and international counter-terrorism obligations and to enable them undertake rapid responses to terrorist acts. To this end, Community Members hereby commit to strengthen collaboration, synergies and consultations on various matters related to the prevention and combating of terrorism.

Principal Causes of Terrorism in West Africa

9. In order to develop a common strategic approach to fight terrorism within the Community, it is important to have a common perception of the threats and vulnerabilities of the region to terrorism. Several geographical, environmental, political, economic and socio-cultural factors motivate individuals to commit terrorist acts or incite, support and harbor those who commit them. The interplay of these factors is of particular relevance to West Africa. It is a region well endowed with natural resources, geo-strategically located, rich in cultural, religious and ethnic diversity; and which concurrently is one of the most impoverished regions with a history of violent conflicts, coups d'état and political instability, transnational organized crimes including human, drugs and arms trafficking, all of which have presented conditions conducive for terrorism in West Africa. In addition, the globalization and transnational nature of most contemporary criminal networks (the al Qaeda phenomenon) has also contributed to the spread of terrorism within the region. The main factors that account for vulnerabilities in the region include:

- Presence of violent religious extremist groups and international terrorist organizations;
- History of intractable conflicts, coups d'état, collapsed states and acute political instability;
- High urban criminality rate and organized crimes including piracy, drugs, arms and human trafficking;
- Proximity of the vast Sahel region (with little or no law enforcement)—a conduit for terrorists and traffickers;

- Black markets for natural resources including diamonds (serve as a funding source for terrorists);
- Widespread corruption, bad governance and absence of a democratic culture based on the rule of law;
- Poverty, youth unemployment and inequalities (in relation to unemployment and wealth) and lack of dynamic government policies for disadvantaged and marginalized communities

10. Although these factors are not peculiar to the region, the manifestation of terrorism in West Africa exhibits unique characteristics. Secular and religious factors have been used to justify terrorism in the region. The main secular factors are political and economic in nature and relate to mismanagement of natural resources, inequalities (and injustices), unemployment, marginalization and environmental and ecological degradation. Religious factors have included frustration with secular governments and the desire to replace them with dogmatic religious caliphates.

11. Religion is not a cause of terrorism and the main religious groups in West Africa have for centuries lived in peaceful coexistence. Religious extremism however, particularly its violent radicalization has been used as a tool by terrorist groups, in order to secure a pool of support and sympathy for their actions, as well as to guarantee recruitment. Terrorist groups in West Africa are both homegrown (or domestic) and international. The most notable homegrown groups that have committed terrorist acts in West Africa include, Boko Haram (in Northern Nigeria), which has also become international involving neighboring countries; the Movement

for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND—in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria), Mouvement des Forces Democratiques de la Casamance (MFDC--Senegal), Revolutionary United Front (RUF—Sierra Leone). International terrorist groups that have cells or have committed acts of terrorism in West Africa include, al Qaeda in the land of Islamic Maghreb (AQIM—Trans-Sahel region), Hizbollah (cells in Sierra Leone and Liberia).

12. In addition, global factors such as power politics (conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia), clashes among peoples and nations, clash among world religions (age-old Muslim-Christian conflict) have also contributed to the vulnerability of the region. The scientific and technological developments in information and communication, especially with regard to the new cyberspace, internet and mobile phone revolutions, have not only eliminated geographic boundaries, but have given terrorist groups new tools for propaganda, recruitment and execution of terrorist acts.

Responding to Terrorism in West Africa

13. In recognition of the threat posed by terrorism to their countries, Community Members have individually taken various national measures to prevent and combat terrorism. Some have adopted national legislations and others have strengthened relevant aspects of their penal law to criminalize terrorism. States in the community have also cooperated with the international community by signing, ratifying and/or

acceding to regional, continental and international counter-terrorism legal instruments. To this end, all states in the region have ratified at least seven of the eighteen universal instruments, while a vast majority has ratified the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism. In addition, all states in the region have submitted at least one report to the UN Security Council Counter-terrorism Committee (CTC) pursuant to the Security Council resolution 1373 adopted in 2001. In a few cases, ECOWAS Member States have established national mechanisms such as counter-terrorism units to coordinate national counter-terrorism measures. Financial institutions including central and commercial banks have taken measures to strengthen regulations on financial and economic activities to suppress or prevent the abuse of financial systems by terrorists.

14. Despite these measures Community Members continue to face a growing threat of terrorism intertwined with other criminal acts, such as money laundering, illicit smuggling and proliferation of small arms, trafficking in drugs and human beings. The main challenge to counter-terrorism in the region, which indeed provides the *raison d'être* for this Strategy, is the need to harmonize the efforts of Community Members and to provide a framework within ECOWAS for the prevention and combating of terrorism. The Strategy lays out a strategic vision and the actions that Member States should take in order to prevent and combat the threat of terrorism in the region.

15. In view of the challenges highlighted above, there is a dire need for robust and proactive policies. The old adage that 'prevention is better than cure' is an important precept underpinning this Strategy. States should develop deradicalisation programmes that seek to counter radical ideologies and terrorist propaganda, as well as promote mainstream religious teachings and interfaith dialogue at all levels, broad base social awareness programmes involving civil society groups, employment and community-based programmes for youth groups, broad base participation in political and economic policies and institutions. Faith based institutions including churches and mosques, traditional chiefs should be encouraged to participate in government programmes and to also take initiatives to prevent radical ideas and extremist elements that seem to have empathy for terrorism. States should also develop counter-terrorism curricula for schools and universities to promote awareness and support for counter-terrorism.

16. Terrorists are anarchists who take advantage of and/or seek to provoke conditions of lawlessness. Many terrorist groups are known to have emerged from or fueled by prolonged armed conflict, bias government policies, corrupt regimes, and human rights abuse. Addressing these conditions is a vital endeavor to prevent terrorist acts within the Community. ECOWAS has adopted several decisions and legally binding instruments to promote peace and security, as well as democracy and good governance. The full and effective implementation of these instruments and decisions will go a long way in curbing the threat of terrorism within the region. Removing the conditions of anarchy such as armed conflicts and political and economic instability would also help states to reassert their authority and the rule of

law. Policies should aim at cutting off terrorist's access to weapons, funds and recruitment.

SECTION II

STRATEGIC VISION

Purpose and Objectives

17. The purpose of this strategy is to give effect to regional, continental and international counter-terrorism instruments and to provide a common operational framework for action to prevent and eradicate terrorism and related criminal acts within the Community, while protecting human security, human and people's rights, and creating conducive conditions for sound economic development and the well being of all Community's citizens. In this context, this Strategy seeks to strengthen operational capabilities for responding to terrorism and to achieve the following objectives:

- enhance coordination among Member States, particularly in the fields of intelligence, law enforcement, investigation, and the prosecution of terrorist crimes;
- strengthen national and regional capacities to detect, deter, intercept, and prevent terrorist crimes;
- promote a criminal justice approach that emphasizes the rule of law, due process, respect for human rights and protect civilians in counter-terrorism activities;
- prevent and combat violent religious radicalism/extremism
- harmonize responses to terrorism including counter-terrorism legislations; and
- promote regional and international cooperation on terrorism related matters including extradition and mutual legal assistance.

Guiding Principles

18. In view of the transnational and international dimensions of terrorism in West Africa, this Strategy is anchored on the belief that cooperation among Member States in various fields of preventing and combating terrorism is critical for achieving its objectives. In this context, Member States shall share and coordinate, at all times critical information on terrorist elements and shall afford to one another the greatest measure of assistance in their efforts to prevent and combat terrorism in all the

pillars that constitute this Strategy. Other core principles underpinning this Strategy include:

- Terrorism has emerged as a serious threat to peace, security, stability, development and social cohesion in West Africa;
- Primacy of prevention and the respect for human rights;
- Good governance and a democratic culture are prerequisites for effective counter-terrorism;
- Counter-terrorism requires both military and non-military strategies and tools; and
- Cooperation among states and technical assistance in all fields constitute a cornerstone for the successful implementation of this Strategy.

Definition of Terrorism

19. For the purpose of this Strategy, terrorism shall be generally understood as defined by the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism. In addition, specific offenses such as those against the making of plastic bombs and against terrorist bombings shall be understood in the context of relevant international treaties that Member States are parties to.

SECTION III

STRATEGIC APPROACH

20. In order to achieve the stated objectives, this Strategy is based on three main pillars for actions against terrorism in the Community, namely: 1) Prevent, 2) Pursue and 3) Repair. Community Members shall, as a priority, make every possible endeavor to prevent terrorism from occurring. That failing, they shall pursue and bring to justice at all cost the perpetrators of terrorist acts and repair any damage that such acts may bring to bear on the victims and the society as a whole.

PILLAR 1: PREVENT

21. The goal of the 'prevent' pillar is to identify key areas where Member States should take actions to detect and prevent terrorism before it emerges. The 'prevent' pillar therefore seeks to address and eliminate conditions conducive to terrorism as contained in the UN General's Assembly's 2006 Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. States are encouraged to promote policies aimed at addressing the root causes of terrorism including poverty and widespread unemployment, economic and political marginalization of some groups, human rights abuse, corruption, weak security institutions and illicit trans-border activities. Specific policies should also be developed to counter terrorist propaganda, dissuade and deter people from turning to terrorism and deny terrorists access to funds, materials and space with which to plan and launch their attacks.

22. The ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework identifies a number of areas of cooperation, actions, activities, programmes and institutions likely to assist in the effective prevention of conflicts and threats from terrorism. The effective prevention of terrorism involves various national and regional authorities including legislative, financial, law enforcement, military, judicial, educational and social institutions, all of which enable a state to detect, intercept and disrupt terrorist activities. A successful preventive measure is one that is conducted with the full or strategic involvement of local communities. Terrorists have families, friends and relatives, who could provide important clues about their activities, their whereabouts and support means.

Priority Areas of Intervention

a) Total rejection of terrorism

- Every Member State should unambiguously and unequivocally reject terrorism in all its forms and manifestations irrespective of wherever it may occur or whoever may have committed it, as a serious criminal offence;
- Implement a zero-tolerance policy on terrorism.

b) Eliminate conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism

- Intensify efforts to fully implement all ECOWAS, African Union and UN instruments relating to the maintenance and promotion of peace and security in West Africa;
- Cooperate with the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Taskforce (CTITF) to effectively implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which identifies

areas where states must take actions to eliminate conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism including measures to prevent and combat terrorism, measures to build and strengthen states' capacity and for the full respect of human rights;

- Intensify efforts to resolve all armed conflicts and other conditions of instability by promoting national reconciliation, interfaith dialogue, conflict prevention, management and resolution;
- Adopt and where necessary, review and strengthen policies to ensure transparency, equality, inclusivity and broad base representation of various segments of society including ethnic, religious, gender and youth groups in all government's political and economic platforms;
- Implement a zero-tolerance policy against racism and other forms of discrimination based on ethnicity, gender or religion, nationality and political opinions;
- Strengthen the role of relevant civil society and media organizations on matters relating to counter-terrorism, particularly in the domains of communication and negotiation.

c) Enhance early warning and operational intelligence coordination

- Develop and strengthen proactive and operational capabilities to anticipate, detect and disrupt terrorist activities;
- Expand the mandate of the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN) to include terrorism indicators;
- Enhance operational coordination with intelligence services (including the Committee for Coordination of Security Services (CCSS), police and military services) both at the

national and regional levels. The CCSS shall serve as a central body for the coordination of information and activities of police and law enforcement agencies working on counter-terrorism issues, particularly those involved in the collection of information, investigation of and first responders to criminal acts;

- Enhance the sharing of information among Member States, both at the regional and international levels;
- Develop a West African database on terrorist activities including terrorist groups, networks, their leaders, headquarters, movement, training camps, means and sources of funding, means of acquisition of arms and explosives, as well as on their recruitment, communication and propaganda methods;
- Collaborate with INTERPOL, the AU Committee of Intelligence and Security Services in Africa (CISSA) and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), as well as other regional and international mechanisms with a view to receive, share and disseminate relevant information;
- Coordinate and share information with other regional mechanisms such as SADC, IGAD, ECCAS/CEMAC, and UMA, as well as with other organizations;
- Support and collaborate with relevant civil society organizations the collection and dissemination of information for the detection and prevention of terrorist activities;
- Support the creation of programmes in Member States for dealing with vulnerable youths; and
- Strengthen the capacity of States through the provision of adequate equipment to deal with terrorists.

d) Deny terrorist the means, space and technical capacity to carry out operations

- Suppress the financing of terrorism by freezing all terrorist funds and assets, and enforce strict regulations on financial and non-financial institutions including money transfers, to ensure that such transactions and funds do not support terrorism whether directly or indirectly. To this end, states should ratify and/or accede to, and fully implement the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and all relevant UN resolutions including Security Council's resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001);
- Scrupulously implement all relevant instruments and decisions adopted by ECOWAS policy organs including the existing African Union, UN and international legal instruments on preventing and combating the illicit manufacture and development, acquisition or possession, proliferation, circulation, transfer, accumulation or stockpiling and use of small arms and light weapons, and weapons of mass destruction including biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological weapons. In particular, Member States should ensure that such acts are strictly prohibited and criminalized under national law with severe penalties for perpetrators in order to deny terrorists access to such weapons. These instruments include, inter alia:
 - 2006 ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;
 - 1998 ECOWAS Declaration on the Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Light Weapons in ECOWAS Member States;
 - 1996 African Nuclear-Weapons-Free-Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);
 - 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear

Terrorism;

- 2001 Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;
 - 2000 UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime;
 - 1997 International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings;
 - 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;
 - 1992 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;
 - 1992 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;
 - 1991 International Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection;
 - 1980 Convention for the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and the Amendment thereto; and
 - 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.
- Intensify efforts to refuse terrorists access to explosive materials including commercial explosives such as TNT and dynamites by enforcing international standards including stringent requirements for the marking of explosives and for end users reporting in

order to prevent illicit transfer and misuses of explosive materials;

- Adopt and enforce stringent regulations on the control of the transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons. Such measures should include compulsory inventory, identification and declaration at various levels of transfer and end user. Of particular importance is the need to regulate and monitor the production, stockpiles, possession, acquisition and access to weapons and explosives, particularly their transfer to non-state end users. States should enforce stringent control measures such as inventory, licensing of dealers, record keeping of sales and purchases and a ban on all transfers of man-portable air defense systems (MANPADS);
- Cooperate with relevant regional and international institutions that provide expertise and technical assistance on such matters such as the ECOWAS Programme on Small Arms, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UN Programme of Action on Small Arms (UNPoA), the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and Executive Directorate (CTED), Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) Panel and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO); as well as relevant civil society and media organizations;
- Ensure maximum security and comply with international safety standards for nuclear energy installations including the transfer of sensitive facilities, technology and material (such as uranium) usable for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, and any enrichment facility or enrichment technology should be designed or operated in accordance with internationally approved standards. To this end, states shall enforce a strict ban on the unlawful possession, transfer and trade in uranium and other materials that may be diverted towards the production of explosives or their

precursors thereof;

- Develop and strengthen national legislations and capacity to enforce cyber-security regulations including the ability to detect, monitor and intercept terrorist activities through the use of the internet and other forms of wireless and electronic communication;
- Prohibit and criminalize the use of their territories including air, land, and maritime spaces for the planning, recruitment, financing and supporting the commission of terrorist acts against their people or against other states;

e) Prevent extremism and radicalization

- Develop measures to identify and counter the propaganda methods used by extremist sects to lure and recruit youths and other vulnerable groups into violent and radical ideologies;
- Work with religious and community leaders, scholars and relevant civil society groups to develop deradicalization and reintegration programmes and to promote mainstream religious teachings, interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogues and reconciliation. Such programmes should seek to address the conditions conducive for youth radicalization including unemployment, lack of participation and representation in political and economic processes, injustices, lack of education, social delinquencies, frustration and deprivation;
- Faith based institutions including churches and mosques should be encouraged to participate in government programmes and to take initiatives to prevent radical ideas and extremist elements that seem to have empathy for terrorism;
- Develop and where necessary enhance counter-terrorism curricula for schools and

universities to promote awareness of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures;

- Develop and where necessary, strengthen national laws to criminalize recruitment for, propaganda, incitement, support for or the attempt or conspiracy to participate in violent radical ideologies including hate crimes and the use of religion to commit violent acts leading to deaths, injuries or damage to property.
- Eliminate racism and other forms of discrimination; and
- Prevent occupation, colonialism and other forms of domination.

f) Promote democratic practices and the protection of human rights

- Intensify democratic practices as enshrined in the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance Supplementary to the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, as well as other relevant international legal instruments that Community Members have acceded to.
- Promote broad base participation and equitable representation in all government economic, socio-political and cultural programmes and government institutions;
- Promote transparency and accountability in all state's programmes and institutions, as well as policies aimed at fully emancipating marginalized communities including minorities;
- Ensure that human rights as enshrined in the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights, various UN conventions and in the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights are protected for every individual. To this end, Member States shall take every measure to

- ensure that actions taken to prevent and combat terrorism including legislative and operational activities of police and law enforcement officers do not infringe on these rights, except under the emergency conditions allowed under national law;
- Prohibit torture in all its forms and manifestations and other degrading and inhumane treatment, as well as discrimination on racial, ethnic or gender basis against minorities and terrorist suspects;
 - Ensure that detention, arrest, imprisonment or forced expulsion/deportation and other sanctions against terrorist suspects are conducted strictly within the framework of the law. To this end, all Member States shall ensure that arrest, detention, forced expulsion/deportation, imprisonment or even targeted killing of terrorist suspects are conducted through due process of the law;
 - Ensure that police and law enforcement officers are properly trained on counter-terrorism and human rights issues. To this end, ECOWAS shall develop its own appropriate Counter-Terrorism Training Manual that shall include modules on specific regional challenges, with a view to build and augment Member States' capacities and skills in core counter-terrorism areas including the protection of human rights, implementation of international, continental and regional counter-terrorism instruments, intelligence gathering and sharing, investigation of terrorism-related offences and strengthening counter-terrorism cooperation in West Africa;
 - Take all necessary measures to discourage and stamp out corruption in both private and government sectors, particularly among police, law enforcement officers and other security and judicial officers, and set out severe penalties for those who violate anti-corruption laws;

PILLAR 2: PURSUE

23. While priority will be given to every endeavor to prevent terrorism from occurring, however, in the event where terrorism does occur, Member States shall take all necessary measures to minimize its impacts on communities and on national security in general. The 'Pursue' pillar aims at enabling Member States to undertake rapid, timely and effective responses to terrorism when it occurs. The main objectives are to disrupt terrorists' planning, networks and their activities; bring terrorist leaders and their followers, supporters and sympathizers to justice to the full extent provided by the law; cut off terrorists' funding and access to equipment, finances, training and meeting ground; and to create a hostile environment for terrorists in the region.

Priority Areas of Intervention

a) Sign, ratify and/or accede to and effectively implement regional, continental and international counter-terrorism legal instruments

- Become party to all the ECOWAS, African Union, United Nations and other universal conventions and protocols against terrorism, as a matter of urgent priority (see annex for list of instruments)
- Take all necessary legislative, executive and judicial measures to fully domesticate and

enforce the provisions of the abovementioned instruments.

- Establish at the level of the Commission a Counter-Terrorism Technical Assistance Directory to enable states in need to find and receive technical assistance;
- Monitor effective implementation by maintaining an updated list of States' Compliance with all regional, continental and international legal instruments;

b) Enhance the rule of law and cooperation on criminal justice matters

- Strengthen the legal framework and codification regimes;
- Make terrorist offence punishable under national law;
- Introduce constitutional provisions to facilitate the domestication and enforcement of AU norms and regulations;
- Encourage Member States, particularly those that have not done so, to as a matter of urgency enact and where necessary strengthen national legislation to incorporate all criminal justice aspects of counter-terrorism as provided in the African Union Comprehensive African Antiterrorism Model Law, 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and its Protocol thereto, as well as the fourteen universal conventions and four additional protocols against terrorism. Legislation need to:

- Criminalize willful attempts to commit acts of terrorism including incitement, accomplice, support, abating, soliciting support; providing, receiving or participating in training or instructing, recruiting and possessing materials intended for the commission of a terrorist act.
- Ensure that any emergency powers of the police and law enforcement

- agencies to search, arrest and detain terrorist suspects must be conducted in accordance with national and human rights law;
- Provide clear guidelines on seizure and forfeiture of terrorist assets, including materials, weapons, and finances with a view to prevent, disrupt and suppress plans to commit acts of terrorism.
- Provide for a central authority for receiving and coordinating requests for extradition and mutual legal assistance.
- Provide support to victims of terrorism.
- Protect human rights in counter-terrorism actions.
- Guarantee physical and social protection to witnesses and their family members and collaborators.
- Prohibit terrorist blackmail and demand for ransom.
- Prohibit the payment of ransom to terrorists and other criminal groups.
- Combat other transnational organized crimes with proven links to terrorism.
- Extend to one another all measures of cooperation and assistance on criminal matters including the investigation and prosecution of terrorist acts. Such cooperation whether at the international or regional level shall be both formally and informally to enable flexibility and efficiency of national judicial systems to be able to pursue terrorists everywhere within the region and to handle complex counter-terrorism cases including issues related to forensic, technological and financial aspects of investigation and prosecution of terrorist crimes. To this end, regularly train and update criminal justice officials in the field of international cooperation on criminal matters;

- Cooperate on matters relating to extradition as provided in the ECOWAS Conventions on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance. In order to enhance cooperation on criminal matters, and to be able to bring terrorists to justice. To this end establish and recognize the legality of an ECOWAS Arrest Warrant (ECOWARRANT), an ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Coordination Bureau (ECOCTB), and an ECOWAS Black List of Terrorists and Criminal Networks (ECOTLIST). The ECOWAS Warrant shall also enable Member States to cooperate in giving and obtaining evidence in other Member States;
- Regularly update national legislations and regulations on international cooperation in criminal matters and encourage states to conclude regional agreements on cooperation on extradition and mutual legal assistance. To this end, Member States should be strongly encouraged to ratify and/or accede to the Rabat Convention on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance.

c) Improve cooperation on border control and surveillance including aviation and maritime security

- Strengthen cooperation on border control and surveillance both at formal and informal ports of entry/exit, without prejudice to the ECOWAS protocols and regulations on the free movement of persons, goods and services;
- Establish common border patrol mechanisms, which shall also conduct regular assessments of threats and vulnerabilities of borders;
- Strengthen measures to detect forgery and falsified documents and to report and share such information with relevant Member States;
- Report all suspicious passports and identification documents including goods and

serves not in compliance with the ECOWAS protocols and regulations on inter-state road transit of goods and inter-state road transportation between ECOWAS Members;

- Scrupulously enforce provisions of relevant international conventions and protocols on the safety of civil aviation, law of the sea, maritime navigation and fixed platforms on the continental shelf;
- Enact and where necessary strengthen national legislations and the criminal justice regimes against piracy and other criminal activities in the high seas to ensure that perpetrators of such acts are effectively investigated, prosecuted and deterred;
- Ensure that all vessels sailing on or using states' maritime spaces are registered with long range identification and tracking system, and that commercial users are properly registered and licensed;
- Strengthen cooperation and coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the UNODC to put in place specific regulations for the inspection of cargo originating, exiting, transiting, or being transhipped through a state; for the promotion of customs-to-customs cooperation on the in-bound and out-bound security inspection and the use of standardize targeting and screening criteria to detect and prevent drugs, arms and human trafficking within the framework of relevant regional, continental and international instruments;

d) Suppress and criminalize the financing of terrorism and associated money-laundering

- Criminalize terrorist financing including the attempt to finance terrorism and ancillary offences consistent with the requirements of the UN 1999 Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, and UN Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001);

- Make the offence of terrorist financing a predicate offence to the money laundering offence. To this end, the criminalization regimes should be carried out on the basis of the 1988 UN Convention of Vienna and 2000 UN Convention of Palermo;.
- Ensure that both financial and non-financial sectors are subjected to stringent anti-money laundering/anti-terrorism financing obligations consistent with the FATF Recommendations, in particular Customer Due Diligence, reporting suspicious activities and monitoring transactions and business relationships;
- Criminalize the demand for payment of ransom by terrorist groups and make the payment of ransom to such groups a predicate offence under national law with appropriate and proportionate punishment;
- Each country shall establish a fully operational Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and improve its capacities to receive, analyze and disseminate suspicious money laundering/terrorist financing related transactions/activities;
- Ensure that Money/value transfer services should be registered or licensed and be subject to all national, regional and international regulations including the FATF Recommendations that apply to financial institutions. To this end states should adopt and harmonize regulations including those relating to wire transfer and remittances, non-profit or charity groups/organizations, as well as those of cash couriers in accordance with GIABA and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) to ensure that they are not exploited by terrorist and other criminal groups;
- Develop and strengthen capacities (human, material and financial means) and regularly train personnel in charge of combating terrorist financing and money laundering (including police, law enforcement agents and FIUs) and where necessary seek technical assistance to build such capacity, including from GIABA and WAEMU;

- Put in place effective mechanisms to provide the widest possible range of mutual legal assistance and information exchange on cross-border illicit financial activities, and movements of terrorist assets, as well as measures aimed at strengthening states' abilities to monitor, detect and disrupt suspicious or terrorist activities. Offences related to terrorist financing should apply to natural and legal persons who knowingly engage in TF activities. They should be subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions
- States are to carry out these measures in full respect of human rights and in a manner not to disrupt or impede in any way the smooth flow of economic activities;

e) Protect critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests

- Identify and increase security at critical infrastructures and soft targets including airports, seaports, major roads, historic and cultural infrastructure, government offices, markets and shopping malls, stadiums, stock exchange, social theaters, foreign diplomatic premises and installations (including companies, organizations, vessels, cars and couriers);
- Criminalize acts that target critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests in the territories of Member States, and provide for severe penalties for offenders;
- WAPCCO together with Interpol shall issue periodic alert notices, based on well informed intelligence, to public bodies, international organizations, diplomatic representations and other agencies, about any possible threats from terrorism, particularly in relation to hidden weapons, parcel bombs and other dangerous materials;

- Regularly train personnel on the protection of critical infrastructures and to build a readiness capacity to respond rapidly to a terrorist attack and to perform technical operations such as disarming or deactivating explosives, cordoning off the crime area, dealing with victims and collecting materials for forensic evidence;

f) Enhance the ability of Member States to develop a criminal justice response to terrorism

- Develop dedicated units of prosecutors in Member States who can be called upon to prosecute terrorism-related cases; and
- Assist Member States to establish specialized units within law enforcement agencies and the Gendarmerie (assisted by the military where necessary) to investigate terrorism-related offences, hostage negotiations and bomb disposal.

g) Strengthen cooperation with civil society and media organizations on the prevention and combating of terrorism

- Put in place a framework with which to engage civil society and media in order to enhance their contribution to the prevention and combating of terrorism;
- Encourage media reporting on terrorist incidents to focus on the plight of victims and the criminal nature of the attacks, with a view to eliminate sympathy, empathy or the glorification of the perpetrators of terrorist acts;
- Provide regular information to the media on the government's counter-terrorism strategy;
- Sensitize communities about the consequences of terrorism on economic development and the government strategy;

- Develop national strategies for better communication on matters relating to the prevention and combating of terrorism, utilizing all possible channels and networks of communication to ensure an effective and coherent strategy;
- Involve civil society and media organizations in all major national, regional and international counter-terrorism forums and other platforms.

(h) Training and capacity-building on the prevention and combating of terrorism

- Allocate substantial resources including personnel, materials and equipments for the prevention and combating of terrorism
- Put in place within the Commission, an ECOWAS capacity-building programme against terrorism in order to effectively coordinate, harmonise and implement counter-terrorism training programmes for both civilian and military personnel
- Develop specialized training courses on counter-terrorism matters including intelligence gathering and sharing, investigation, prosecution and extradition and international cooperation. To this end, an ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Training Manual shall incorporate special modules for criminal justice officials.
- Regularly train officials to develop and strengthen operational skills to undertake technical counter-terrorism operations including capabilities to perform forensic analysis, preparation of statutory reports, drafting and processing of mutual legal assistance (MLA) and extradition requests.

PILLAR 3: RECONSTRUCT

24. The aftermath of terrorism and even counter-terrorism could destroy the social fabric of society. People lose confidence in the state and its ability to protect them, and at times terrorism pits social groups against each other in accusations and counter-accusations. The 'Reconstruct' pillar aims at rebuilding society and at enabling the state to heal social wounds caused by terrorism and counter-terrorism.

Priority Areas of Intervention

a) Protect the rights of victims

- Establish an institutional and legal mechanism with the mandate to protect the rights of victims of terrorism, and endow such mechanism with all the means and resources including powers to utilize funds and proceeds seized from terrorists for the benefit of victims;
- Funds seized or recovered from terrorists may be distributed to terrorist victims or their families, with a view to facilitate their social rehabilitation and reintegration, as well as their security;
- Provide other forms of assistance to victims including medical care, and reintegration into normal social life;
- Ensure that the international dimension of counter-terrorism such as extradition takes into account the victims rights and best interest. In this context ensure that victims are kept well informed of proceedings and

outcomes.

b) Support and reconcile communities

- Support in every manner the communities of victims of terrorist acts, including moral, political, economic and social support
- Take measures aimed at reconciling communities, particularly in the aftermath of a terrorist incident by promoting dialogue and emphasizing the individuality of terrorists and not their social, economic, racial, ethnic, cultural, religious or political background. In this context, the goal is to isolate the terrorists, their ideology, slogans and propaganda from the communities that they claim to represent;
- Rebuild and strengthen state and social cohesion by implementing programmes that unite communities, promote national pride, and demonstrate state control of the situation, as well as its determination to bring perpetrators to justice.

c) Repair social contract

- Take immediate actions in the aftermath of a terrorist attack to reassure the people that it is in control of the situation and people should be kept well informed about measures being taken including investigation and prosecution of suspects;
- Enhance operational synergies in the activities of law enforcement agencies and local communities in order to bring security closer to local communities and to ensure trust

and transparency;

- Promote education and other social benefits including community development projects for victims of terrorist acts;
- Promote counter-terrorism curriculum in schools and universities and training on what to do in the event of a terrorist attack; and
- Establish direct hotlines and emergency numbers and persons or places to contact in the event of a terrorist act or a suspicious terrorist activity.

d) Develop national counter-terrorism strategies

- Develop a national counter-terrorism strategy that addresses the various dimensions of the threat of terrorism including an approach to counter terrorists' propaganda, recruitment, sources of funding and radicalization. Such strategies should draw from and aim at giving practical effect to the full implementation of this (ECOWAS) Strategy and other applicable instruments;
- Ensure that all relevant national stakeholders are involved in the development and implementation of the strategy;
- Promote national awareness to strengthen support and implementation of the strategy.

SECTION IV

IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS

25. The primary obligation for the full and effective implementation of this Strategy shall remain with states. However, in order to ensure regular follow-ups and effective monitoring of the implementation of this Strategy, the following mechanisms are recommended to assist states in this endeavor at the national, regional, continental and international levels:

National Taskforce

26. For the purpose of effective implementation of this Strategy and coordination at the regional, continental and international levels, Member States shall establish a National Authority or Inter-Departmental Taskforce wherever such a mechanism does not already exist to serve as a focal point for terrorism matters at the national level and for effective coordination at the regional, continental and international levels. States may also decide to utilize existing mechanisms such as the Focal Points

designated for the purpose of coordination with the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT).

Periodic Evaluation and Reporting on the Implementation of this Strategy (PERIS)

27. In order to ensure continued focus on the implementation of this Strategy, and to regularly reassess progress and challenges, Member States shall agree on a timeframe for periodic evaluation and reporting on the measures taken and challenges encountered in the implementation of this Strategy. It is recommended that such a timeframe varies between three to six months or at least twice a year. The frequency of reporting may also be determined by the ECOWAS Assembly of Heads of State and Government. On the basis of these evaluations, this Strategy may be amended or revised in order to bring it up to date.

ECOWAS Commission

28. The Security Division of the Commission shall be entrusted with overall role of coordinating the implementation of this Strategy. It shall serve as the focal point of the Commission on counter-terrorism matters. The Commission shall examine the reports submitted by Member States, and compile and submit such reports to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for policy direction. It shall follow up with Member States on any aspect related to the effective implementation of this Strategy.

ECOWAS Court of Justice

29. The Community Court shall be charged with the enforcement of the rights of victims of terrorism in conformity with its jurisdiction.

CCSS

30. The CCSS shall coordinate the aspects of intelligence cooperation on the implementation of this Strategy including liaison with ECOWARN and relevant regional, continental and international mechanisms.

ECOWARN

31. ECOWARN shall be responsible for gathering information to predict and detect activities of terrorist groups, in liaison with WAPCCO.

ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Coordination (Unit/Center)

32. Member States shall establish an ECOWAS counter-terrorism coordination unit, which shall be responsible for creating a databank of terrorist activities, trends and developments in West Africa. It shall provide an ECOWAS capacity programme against terrorism and carry out technical functions related to the prevention and combating of terrorism, including: Research, analyses, regular threats and vulnerability assessments, and make recommendations on measures to be taken to effectively combat terrorism within the region. The Unit shall also be responsible for the coordination of training and developing counter-terrorism expertise in the region. It shall liaise with similar national, continental and international mechanisms.

GIABA/WAEMU

33. GIABA/WAEMU shall coordinate activities related to the suppression of terrorist financing and associated money laundering. It shall regularly review and conduct threats and vulnerability assessment, as well as make regular recommendations on measures to suppress the financing of terrorism in West Africa.

International Organizations and Partners

34. This Strategy shall be implemented in collaboration with relevant international organizations, international partners, which shall contribute to capacity-building for the prevention and combating of terrorism in West Africa. They shall also ensure synergies and coordination on various counter-terrorism matters at the international and continental levels.

Civil-Society Organizations (CSOs)/Media Networks

35. Recognizing their diverse nature CSOs/Media shall play a complementary role in the implementation of this Strategy. They shall support both the ECOWAS and member States activities aimed at preventing and combating terrorism. Wherever appropriate they shall be consulted to contribute to various aspects in the prevention and combating of terrorism including raising awareness, providing training and expertise and support to national reconciliation and healing programme.

ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Training Manual

36. In order to develop and enhance the capacity of Member States in various areas of the prevention and combating of terrorism, ECOWAS will develop a specialized Counter-Terrorism Training Manual (CTTM). The purpose of the Manual shall be to promote a coordinated and harmonized approach and to impart

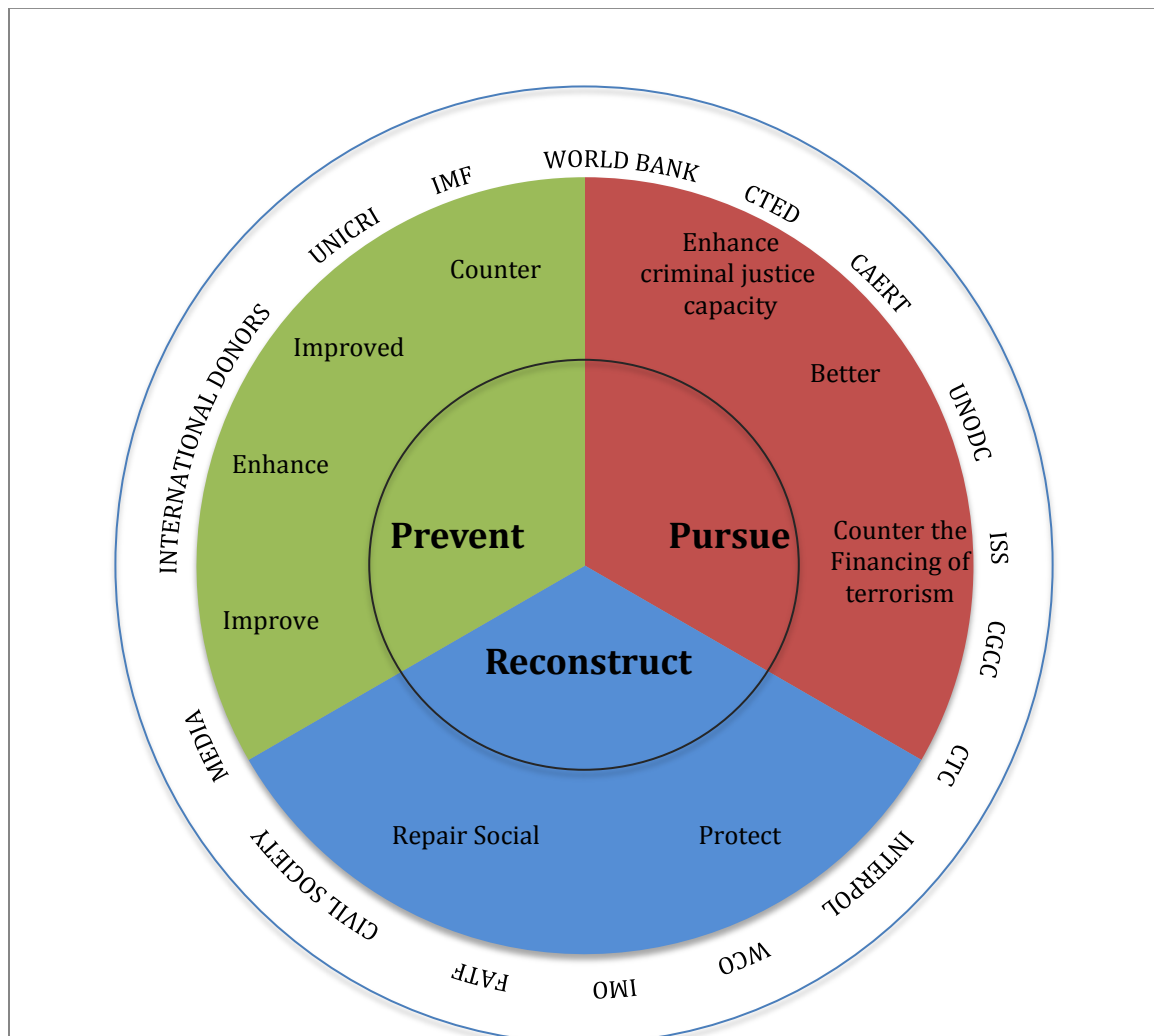
knowledge and skills among relevant states' agencies including police, law enforcement, intelligence, investigators, judiciary (including prosecutors, lawyers, judges, and justices), customs, and diplomats. The manual shall be tailored to address West African counter-terrorism unique challenges, including in the following areas:

- Trends and developments in the manifestation and threat of terrorism and associated transnational organized crimes such as piracy, drug and human trafficking, money laundering;
- Terrorism in the media, including cyber-terrorism through the use of the Internet;
- Regional, Continental and International legal frameworks on the prevention and combating of terrorism;
- National legislation and other measures by states
- Intelligence and Counter-Intelligence;
- Crime scene management and the investigation of terrorist crimes;
- Financing of terrorism including organized crime and money laundering;
- Border control and surveillance;
- Protection of critical infrastructures;

- Hostage negotiation;
- Bomb disposal and weapons of mass destruction; and
- International cooperation on counter-terrorism matters

SECTION V

SUMMARY OF THE STRATEGY



SECTION VI

WAY FORWARD

36. There shall be regular consultations among government agencies that are involved in the fight against terrorism, including, ministers of foreign affairs and cooperation, ministers of justice and interior, judges and justices, police and security chiefs, intelligence chiefs, investigators, prosecutors and other stakeholders to monitor, evaluate and recommend more effective measures for strengthening coordination on counter-terrorism matters among Member States.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

PILLAR 1: PREVENT

Total Rejection of Terrorism					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
1	Every Member State should unambiguously and unequivocally reject terrorism in all its forms and manifestations irrespective of wherever it may occur or whoever may have committed it, as a serious criminal offence	Member States ECOWAS Commission to monitor actions	Condemnation of terrorism by all 15 Member states	Immediate	AU, CTED, CTITF
2	Implement a zero-tolerance policy on terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	No safe havens	Immediate	AU, UN, EU, CSOs and Media
Eliminate conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partner
1	Intensify efforts to fully implement all ECOWAS instruments relating to the maintenance and promotion of peace and security in West Africa;	Member States ECOWAS Commission and all relevant institutions including the Panel of Elders	A secure community living in peace	Continuous	UN, AU, EU, CSOs and Media, development partners

2	Intensify efforts to resolve all armed conflicts and other conditions of instability by promoting national reconciliation, interfaith dialogue, conflict prevention, management and resolution	ECOWAS Commission, Panel of Elders and ECOWARN	Conflict-free Community	Ongoing	UN, AU, EU, CSOs and Media, development partners
3	Adopt and where necessary, review and strengthen policies to ensure transparency, equality, inclusivity and broad base representation of various segments of society including ethnic, religious, gender and youth groups in all government's political and economic platforms	Member States	A Community based on justice, fairness and transparency	continuous	UN, AU, NEPAD APRM, EU, development partners and CSOs and Media
4	Implement a zero-tolerance policy against racism and other forms of discrimination based on ethnicity, gender or religion	Member States, ECOWAS Commission	A Community based on equality of all people, races, cultures and religions	continuous	UN, CSOs and Media
Enhance early warning and operational intelligence cooperation					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Develop and strengthen proactive and operational capabilities to anticipate, detect and disrupt terrorist activities;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Better and effective early preventive actions	continuous	ACSRT, INTERPOL, CISSA, SARPCCO, EARPCCO, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs, Media

2	Expand the mandate of the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN) to include terrorism indicators;	Member States ECOWARN	ECOWARN acts effectively to provide early warning on terrorism	Immediate	ACSRT,, CTED, EU
3	Enhance operational coordination with intelligence services (including the Committee for Coordination of Security Services (CCSS), police and military services) both at the national and regional levels. The West African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (WAPCCO) shall serve as a central body for the coordination of information and activities of police and law enforcement agencies working on counter-terrorism issues, particularly those involved in the collection of information, investigation of and first responders to criminal acts	CCSS, WAPCCO	Effective and timely intelligence on terrorist activities, their networks, movements, members and leaders	Immediate	CISSA
4	Regularize the sharing of information among Member States, both at the regional and international levels	ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Timely information and coordination	continuous	CISSA
5	Develop a West African database on terrorist activities including terrorist groups, networks, their leaders, headquarters, movement, training camps, means and sources of funding, means of acquisition of arms and explosives, as well as on	ECOWAS Commission	An operational and functional database on terrorist activities, networks, members	Within six months	CTED, ACSRT, UNODC

	their recruitment, communication and propaganda methods		and leaders		
6	Coordinate with INTERPOL and the AU Committee of Intelligence and Security Services in Africa (CISSA) and other regional and international mechanisms with a view to receive share and disseminate relevant information	WAPCCO Member States	Effective regional and international coordination	continuous	CISSA, INTERPOL
7	Coordinate and share information with other regional mechanisms such as SADC and IGAD	WAPCCO Member States	Regular and effective inter-regional cooperation	continuous	EUROPOL, EAPCCO, SARPCCO, CARPCCO
Deny terrorists the means, space and technical capacity to carry out operations					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Suppress the financing of terrorism by freezing all terrorist funds and assets, and enforce strict regulations on financial and non-financial institutions including money transfers, to ensure that such transactions and funds do not support terrorism whether directly or indirectly.	Member States ECOWAS Commission GIABA WAEMU	Reduction in terrorist activities due to lack of funds and resources	urgent	FATF, IMF, World Bank, AfDB
2	Ratify and/or accede to, and fully implement the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and all relevant UN	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All 15 Member States belong to global regimes on	urgent	CTED, FATF, UNODC

	resolutions including Security Council's resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001). To this end, enact appropriate legislation criminalizing the financing of terrorism		the suppression of terrorist financing, and have in place appropriate legislations		
3	Strengthen financial intelligence surveillance to detect illegal transactions that may be directed to terrorist funding	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective financial intelligence on terrorist financing	urgent	FATF
4	Scrupulously implement all relevant instruments and decisions adopted by ECOWAS policy organs including the existing African Union, UN and international legal instruments on the prevention and combating of the illicit manufacture and development, acquisition or possession, proliferation, circulation, transfer, accumulation or stockpiling and use of small arms and light weapons, and weapons of mass destruction including biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological weapons	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Programme of Action on Small Arms	Deprive terrorists of means and access to weapons and explosives	Within the 1 st year of implementation	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, BWC Panel, UNPoA, 1540 Committee, AU
5	Strictly prohibit and criminalize under national law with severe penalties offences related to the possession and trade in arms and explosive materials in order to deny terrorists access to such weapons	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States have penal legislations	Within the 1 st year of implementation	UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, BWC Panel, 1540 Committee

6	Deny terrorists access to explosive materials including commercial explosives such as TNT and dynamites by enforcing stringent regulations and international standards including requirements for inventory, marking of explosives and for end users reporting in order to prevent illicit transfer and misuses of explosive materials;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States have effective and enforceable regulations	Within the 1 st year of implementation	UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, 1540 Committee, BWC Panel
7	Adopt and enforce stringent regulations on the control of the transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons. Such measures should include compulsory identification and declaration at various levels of transfer and end user. Of particular importance is the need for states to regulate and monitor the production, stockpiles, possession, acquisition and access to weapons and explosives, particularly their transfer to non-state end users. States should enforce stringent control measures such as inventory, licensing of dealers, record keeping of sales and purchases and a ban on all transfers of MANPADS;	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Programme on Small Arms	All Member States adhere to the same control standards	continuous	UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, 1540 Committee, BWC Panel
8	Cooperate with relevant regional and international institutions that provide expertise and technical assistance on such matters such as the ECOWAS Programme on Small Arms, IAEA,	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective regional and international cooperation	continuous	AU, UNPoA, IAEA, OPCW, CTBTO, 1540 Committee, BWC Panel, CSOs and

	UNODC, UNPoA, CTC, CTED, Security Council Resolution 1540 Committee, OPCW, the Biological BWC Panel and CTBO; civil society and medial organizations				Media
9	Ensure maximum security and comply with international safety standards for nuclear energy installations including the transfer of sensitive facilities, technology and material (such as uranium) usable for nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, and any enrichment facility or enrichment technology should be designed or operated in accordance with internationally approved standards.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Secure and safe nuclear energy facilities	continuous	IAEA, 1540 Committee, African Commission on Nuclear Energy
10	Enforce a strict ban on the unlawful possession, transfer and trade in uranium and other materials that may be diverted towards the production of explosives or their precursors thereof	Member States ECOWAS Commission		urgent	IAEA, 1540 Committee, African Commission on Nuclear Energy
11	Enhance border control including joint surveillance and other common border security measures	Member States ECOWAS Commission		urgent	AU, ICAO, IOM, IMO, UNODC
12	Develop the capacity to enforce cyber-security	Member States	Effective and	urgent	ACSRT, CTED,

	including the ability to detect, monitor and intercept terrorist activities through the use of the internet and other forms of wireless and electronic communication	ECOWAS Commission	secure cyberspace		UNICRI, UNODC
13	Prohibit and criminalize the use of their territories including air, land, and maritime spaces for the planning, recruitment, financing and supporting the commission of terrorist acts against their people or against other states;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	No safe havens for terrorists	urgent	AU, UN, IOM, IMO, ICAO, development partners, UNODC, FATF
Prevent extremism and radicalization					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Develop measures to identify and counter the propaganda methods used by extremist sects to lure and recruit youths and other vulnerable groups into violent and radical ideologies	Member States ECOWAS Commission West African Faith-based Organizations	Deprive terrorists of support	urgent	CGCTC, International faith-based organizations, CSOs and Media
2	Work with religious and community leaders, scholars and relevant civil society groups to develop deradicalization and reintegration programmes and to promote mainstream religious teachings, interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogues and reconciliation. Such programmes should seek to address the conditions conducive for youth radicalization including	Member States ECOWAS Commission		Continuous	CSOs ad media

	unemployment, lack of participation and representation in political and economic processes, injustices, lack of education, social delinquencies, frustration and deprivation				
3	Faith based institutions including churches and mosques should be encouraged to participate in government programmes and to take initiatives to prevent radical ideas and extremist elements that seem to have empathy for terrorism;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective coordination with all stakeholders	Continuous	CSOs and Media
4	Develop and where necessary enhance counter-terrorism curricula for schools and universities to promote awareness of terrorism and counter-terrorism measures;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective and sustained education of the youths	Within the 1 st year of implementation	CGCTC, CSOs and Media, academic and scholarly institutions
5	Develop and where necessary, strengthen national laws to criminalize recruitment for, propaganda, incitement, support for or the attempt or conspiracy to participate in violent radical ideologies including hate crimes and the use of religion to commit violent acts leading to deaths, injuries or damage to property;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to have comprehensive and robust anti-terrorism legislations—strengthened rule of law	Urgent	ACSRT, CTED, CTITF, UNODC, CSOs and Media
6	Eliminate racism and other forms of discrimination	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to fully enforce national	urgent	CSOs and Media

			constitutions and other relevant legislations against racism and other forms of discrimination		
7	Prevent occupation, colonialism and other forms of domination	Member States ECOWAS Commission	No Member States should forcefully occupy or support another state to forcefully occupy another country against international law	urgent	AU, UN, EU, development partners
Promote democratic practices and the protection of human rights					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Intensify democratic practices as enshrined in the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance Supplementary to the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, as well as other relevant international legal instruments that Community Members have	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Good governance and sound democratic practices	continuous	AU, UN, NEPAD APRM, EU, development partners, CSOs and Media

	acceded to;				
2	Promote broad base participation and equitable representation in all government sectors including economic, socio-political and cultural programmes and government institutions	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Good governance and sound democratic practices	continuous	AU, UN, EU, development partners, CSOs and Media
3	Promote transparency and accountability in all state's programmes and institutions, as well as policies aimed at fully emancipating marginalized communities including minorities	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Good governance and sound democratic practices	continuous	AU, UN, CSOs and Media
4	Ensure that human rights as enshrined in the 1981 OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights and various UN conventions including the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights are protected for every individual. To this end, Member States shall take every measure to ensure that actions taken to prevent and combat terrorism including legislative and operational activities of police and law enforcement officers do not infringe on these rights, except under the emergency conditions allowed under national law	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Community Court	Respect for human rights	continuous	AfCHPR, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, UN, European Court on Human Rights, CSOs and Media
5	Prohibit torture in all its forms and	Member States	Respect for human	urgent	AfCHPR, African

	manifestations and other degrading and inhumane treatment, including discrimination on racial, ethnic or gender basis against minorities and terrorist suspects;	ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Community Court	rights		Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and Media
6	Ensure that detention, arrest, imprisonment or forced expulsion/deportation and other sanctions against terrorist suspects are conducted strictly within the framework of the law. To this end, all Member States shall ensure that arrest, detention, forced expulsion, imprisonment or even targeted killing of terrorist suspects are conducted through due process of the law	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Community Court	Respect for human rights	continuous	AfCHPR, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and Media
7	Ensure that police and law enforcement officers are properly trained on counter-terrorism and human rights issues	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Effective capacity for law enforcement including police	urgent	INTERPOL, ISS
8	Take all necessary measures to discourage and stamp out corruption in both private and government sectors, particularly among police, law enforcement officers and other security and judicial officers, and set out severe penalties for those who violate anti-corruption laws	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	All Member states to adhere to the same standards against corruption	continuous	AU, UN, UNODC, INTERPOL, Africa Prosecutor Association

PILLAR 2: PURSUE

Sign ratify and/or accede to and effectively implement regional, continental and international counter-terrorism legal instruments					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Become party to all the ECOWAS, African Union, United Nations and other universal conventions and protocols against terrorism, as a matter of urgent priority (see annex for list of instruments);	Member States	All Member States become parties to all African Union and UN (18 universal) instruments	urgent	AU, UN, UNODC, CTED
2	Take all necessary legislative, executive and judicial measures to fully domesticate and enforce the provisions of the abovementioned instruments	Member States supported by the Commission	All Member States have national anti-terrorism legislations and fully enforced	urgent	CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and Media
3	Establish at the level of the Commission a Counter-Terrorism Technical Assistance Directory to enable states in need to find and receive technical assistance;	ECOWAS Commission	A functional and effective directory	Within 3 months of implementation	CTED, ACSRT, CGCTC
4	Monitor effective implementation by maintaining an updated list of States' Compliance with all regional, continental and international legal instruments	ECOWAS Commission	Effective implementation of the Strategy	Within 3 months of implementation	ACSRT, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs and Media
Enhance the rule of law and cooperation on criminal justice matters					

NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Strengthen the legal framework and codification regimes	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to regularly update their legislations	urgent	AU, UN, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and Media
2	Make terrorism the most serious criminal offence punishable by the severest penalties allowed by national law	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States prescribe the same sanctions and penalties for terrorist offences to prevent safe havens	urgent	ACSRT, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and Media
3	Make it a top priority for all States to enact and where necessary strengthen national legislation to criminalize and provide offences covering all key areas of the phenomenon of terrorism as provided in the African Union Comprehensive African Antiterrorism Model Law, 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and its Protocol thereto, as well as the fourteen universal conventions and four additional protocols against terrorism	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States criminalize terrorism as a serious crime under national law	urgent	ACSRT, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs and Media
4	Extend to one another all measures of cooperation and assistance on criminal matters including the investigation and prosecution of terrorist acts. Such cooperation whether at the international or regional level shall be both	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective mutual legal assistance and cooperation	continuous	UNODC, CTED, ACSRT, ISS, CGCTC

	formally and informally to enable flexibility and efficiency of national judicial systems to be able to pursue terrorists everywhere within the region and to handle complex counter-terrorism cases including issues related to forensic, technological and financial aspects of investigation and prosecution of terrorist crimes				
5	Cooperate on matters relating to extradition as provided in the ECOWAS Convention on Extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance. In order to enhance cooperation on criminal matters, and to be able to bring terrorists to justice. To this end establish and recognize the legality of an ECOWAS Arrest Warrant (ECOWARRANT), an ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Coordination Bureau (ECOTCB), and an ECOWAS Black List of Terrorists and Criminal Networks (ECOTLIST). The ECOWAS Warrant shall also enable Member States to cooperate in giving and obtaining evidence in other Member States	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective cooperation on extradition matters	continuous	UNODC, CTED, ACSRT, ISS, CGCTC
Improve cooperation on border control and surveillance including aviation and maritime security					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Establish common border patrol mechanisms, which shall also conduct regular assessments of threats and vulnerabilities of borders	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective border control and surveillance	Urgent	INTERPOL, AU, ACSRT, UNODC, IMO, ICAO, WCO

2	Strengthen measures to detect forgery and falsified documents and to report and share such information with relevant Member States	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAPCCO	Effective border control	Urgent	INTERPOL, AU, ACSRT, UNODC, IMO, ICAO, WCO
3	Report all suspicious passports and identification documents including goods and services not in compliance with the ECOWAS protocols and regulations on inter-state road transit of goods and inter-state road transportation between ECOWAS Members	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective border control	continuous	INTERPOL
4	Scrupulously enforce provisions of relevant international conventions and protocols on the safety of civil aviation, law of the sea, maritime navigation and fixed platforms on the continental shelf.	Member State ECOWAS Commission	All Member States take measures to prevent hijacking and violence aboard an aircraft or a sea vessel	continuous	ICAO, IMO, IOM
5	Enact and where necessary strengthen national legislations and the criminal justice regimes against piracy and other criminal activities in the high seas to ensure that perpetrators of such acts are effectively investigated, prosecuted and deterred.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Member States have in place effective criminal laws and capacity to investigate and prosecute piracy	Urgent	ICAO, IMO, IOM, AU
6	Ensure that all vessels sailing on or using states' maritime spaces are registered with long range	Member States ECOWAS	Member States have in place effective tracking	Within the first year of	IOM, IMO

	identification and tracking system, and that commercial users are properly registered and licensed.	Commission	and control mechanisms to identify, intercept and disrupt criminal networks.	implementation of this Strategy	
7	Strengthen cooperation and coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the UNODC to put in place specific regulations for the inspection of cargo originating, exiting, transiting, or being transshipped through a state; for the promotion of customs-to-customs cooperation on the in-bound and out-bound security inspection and the use of standardize targeting and screening criteria to detect and prevent drugs, arms and human trafficking within the framework of relevant regional, continental and international instruments.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective cooperation on specialized border control activities	continuous	ICAO, WCO, IMO, UNODC, IOM
Suppress and criminalize the financing of terrorism and associated money-laundering					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Take all necessary measures to suppress and prevent the unlawful and willful provision or collection of funds for the commission of a	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States take executive, legislative and judicial	continuous	FATF, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CGCTC, CSOs

	terrorist act	GIABA, WAEMU	measures to suppress terrorist financing		
2	Enforce the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other international instruments relating to money laundering and counterfeiting.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to become parties to the Convention and have measures in place to effectively implement it as well as relevant UN resolutions	continuous	FATF, CTED, UNODC, ISS, CSOs and Media
3	Enact legislation criminalizing the financing of terrorism and money laundering including incitement, abating, supporting, soliciting, accomplice and other willful activities that facilitate terrorists' acquisition of funds directly or indirectly. Legislation should include appropriate penalties for those who commit offences articulated under the law.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to have legislation	urgent	FATF, CTED, UNODC
4	Freeze without delay funds and other financial assets and/or economic activities and resources of persons who commit, or attempt to commit terrorist acts or participate in or facilitate the commission of terrorist acts, of entities or organizations controlled directly or indirectly by such persons, including funds and assets derived	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAEMU GIABA	Effective cooperation on freezing of terrorist funds and assets	continuous	FATF, CAERT, CTED, UNODC

	or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such persons and their associates.				
5	Ensure that central banks and commercial banks and other financial institutions including formal and informal institutions take stringent measures to ascertain the identities of their clients; report irregular activities; and irregular financial transaction patterns.	Member States ECOWAS Commission WAEMU. BCEAO GIABA	Increased role of financial institutions	continuous	FATF, CTED, UNODC
6	Refrain and prohibit their nationals from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities, persons or organizations involved in terrorist and other criminal and clandestine acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups or the payment of ransom to such criminal groups	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Suppress other means of support for terrorist	continuous	ACSRT, CTED, UNODC, CTITF, CGCTC
7	Establish Financial Intelligence Units (FIU's) to liaise with GIABA (Intergovernmental Group Against Money Laundering) in receiving, analyzing, and disseminating reports on suspicious transactions/activities and other relevant information regarding suspected money laundering and terrorist financing, including regular risks or threat assessments and recommendations for combating terrorist	Member States GIABA	Enhanced intelligence and coordination on detecting terrorist transactions	urgent	FATF, CTED, UNODC, ISS

	financing and money laundering both within individual Member States and at the regional level				
8	Strengthen regulations for money value transfer and make registration, licensing and reporting compulsory for all money transfer services. Such regulations should include limitations to send or accept cash payment (the limit shall be consistent with the limit set by GIABA), duty to report international transfer of funds and securities, and detailed identification documents including resident addresses for sender and recipient. Casinos and other lottery services shall verify, document and report detailed identification of their customers paying or receiving cash more than the limit set by GIABA	Member States GIABA	All Member States to adhere to the same standards	urgent	FATF
9	Harmonize among states, financial regulations including those relating to wire transfer and remittances, formal and informal activities of non-profit or charity groups/organizations, as well as those of cash couriers to ensure that they are not exploited by terrorist and other criminal groups	Member States GIABA	All Member States to adhere to the same standards	continuous	FATF
Protect critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Identify and increase security at critical infrastructures and soft targets including airports,	Member States ECOWAS	Enhanced protection of major	continuous	ACSRT, ISS

	seaports, major roads, historic and cultural infrastructure, government offices, markets and shopping malls, stadiums, stock exchange, social theaters, foreign diplomatic premises and installations (including companies, organizations, vessels, cars and couriers)	Commission WAPCCO	infrastructures and governmental institutions		
2	Criminalize acts that target critical infrastructure and diplomatic premises and other foreign interests in the territories of Member States, and provide for severe penalties for offenders	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective protection	urgent	ACSRT, UNODC, ISS
3	WAPCCO together with INTERPOL shall issue periodic alert notices, based on well informed intelligence, to public bodies, international organizations, diplomatic representations and other agencies, about any possible threats from terrorism, particularly in relation to hidden weapons, parcel bombs and other dangerous materials	WAPCCO	Effective use of intelligence	urgent	INTERPOL
4	Regularly train personnel on the protection of critical infrastructures and to build a readiness capacity to respond rapidly to a terrorist attack including performing technical operations such as disarming or deactivating explosives, cordoning off the crime area, dealing with victims and	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity for protection of critical infrastructure	continuous	INTERPOL, ISS, ACSRT

	collecting materials for forensic evidence				
Enhance the ability of Member States to develop a criminal justice response to terrorism					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Develop dedicated units of prosecutors in Member States who can be called upon to prosecute terrorism-related cases	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity for prosecutors	urgent	African Prosecutors Association, UNODC, ISS, ACSRT
2	Assist Member States to establish specialized units within law enforcement agencies and the Gendarmerie (assisted by the military where necessary) to investigate terrorism-related offences, hostage negotiations and bomb disposal	ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity and coordination of law enforcement agencies	urgent	ACSRT, UNODC, CTED, CGCTC, ISS
3	Develop specialized training courses;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective capacity for counter-terrorism	urgent	ACSRT, UNODC, ISS, CGCTC
Strengthen cooperation with civil society and media organizations on the prevention and combating of terrorism					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Develop a strategy on how to engage and work with the media that can play a more productive	Member States ECOWAS	Better coordination on communication with	Within the 1 st year of	CSOs and Media

	role in reporting terrorist incidents in a manner that focuses on the victims and the criminal nature of the attacks. In other words, eliminate sympathy or empathy for the terrorists and focus more on the plight of victims and how and where they may obtain assistance	Commission	CSOs and media	implementation	
2	Provide regular information to the media on the government's counter-terrorism strategy	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Enhanced coordination with media	continuous	CSOs and Media
<p>Training and capacity-building on the prevention and combating of terrorism</p>					
1	Allocate substantial resources including personnel, materials and equipments for the prevention and combating of terrorism.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Member States have in place the resource capacity to prevent and combat terrorism	Urgent	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, Development partners, etc.
2	Put in place within the Commission, an ECOWAS capacity-building programme against terrorism in order to effectively coordinate, harmonise and implement counter-terrorism training programmes for both civilian and military personnel	Member States ECOWAS Commission	To provide a permanent mechanism for capacity-building and coordination of training and skills development on	Immediate	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, Development partners, etc.

			counter-terrorism matters		
3	Develop specialized training courses on counter-terrorism matters including intelligence gathering and sharing, investigation, prosecution and extradition and international cooperation. To this end, an ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Training Manual shall incorporate special modules for criminal justice officials.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	To provide a permanent and up-to-date counter-terrorism curriculum for training and standardization of counter-terrorism skills in the ECOWAS region.	Urgent	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, KAIPTC, Development partners, etc.
4	Regularly train officials to develop and strengthen operational skills to undertake technical counter-terrorism operations including capabilities to perform forensic analysis, preparation of statutory reports, drafting and processing of mutual legal assistance (MLA) and extradition requests.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	All Member States to have functional expertise for highly technical counter-terrorism skills	Continuous	UNODC, CTED, CTITF, FATF, ACSRT, ISS, EU, KAIPTC, Development partners, etc.

PILLAR 3: RECONSTRUCT

--

Protect the rights of victims					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Promote the rights of victims of terrorism including those affected directly and indirectly by the rippling effect of terrorism, and ensure that their concerns are addressed	Member States ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Court of Justice (Community Court)	All Member States to have a framework for dealing with victims of terrorism	continuous	ICRC, Red Cross, African Court of Justice and Human Rights, African Commission on Human and People's Rights
2	Funds seized or recovered from terrorists should be distributed to the victims or their families	Member States Community Court	Effective use of terrorists' funds and assets	continuous	African Court of Justice and Human Rights, CSOs and Media
3	Provide other forms of assistance to victims including medical care, and reintegration into normal social life	Member States Community Court	Effective care for victims of terrorism	continuous	African Court of Justice and

					Human Rights, CSOs and Media,
Support and reconcile communities, promote state and social cohesion					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Take measures aimed at reconciling communities, particularly in the aftermath of a terrorist incident by promoting dialogue and emphasizing the individuality of terrorists	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective management of trauma and shock	continuous	CSOs and Media
2	Avoid measures that seem to profile or target specific groups or communities	Member States ECOWAS	Focus on the individuality of terrorists rather than on than on the racial or ethnic or religious background	continuous	CSOs and Media
Repair social contract					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Take immediate actions in the aftermath of a terrorist attack to reassure the people that it is in control of the situation and people should be kept well informed about measures being taken including investigation and prosecution of suspects.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Continued trust in government	continuous	CSOs and Media

2	Introduce and develop community development projects to rebuild damaged infrastructure and social networks.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Continued trust in government	continuous	Development partners, CSOs and Media
Develop national counter-terrorism strategies					
NO	Actions	Responsibility	Result	Timeframe	Partners
1	Develop a national counter-terrorism strategy that addresses the various dimensions of the threat of terrorism including an approach to counter terrorists' propaganda, recruitment, sources of funding and radicalization. Such strategies should draw from and aim at giving practical effect to the full implementation of this (ECOWAS) Strategy and other applicable instruments.	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Enhance and result-oriented national counter-terrorism programmes	urgent	CTITF, CTED, ISS, CSOs and Media, development partners, etc.
2	Ensure that all relevant national stakeholders are involved in the development and implementation of the strategy;	Member States ECOWAS Commission	Effective national coordination	continuous	CSOs and Media
3	Promote national awareness to strengthen support and implementation of the strategy.		Broad national support for national strategies	continuous	CSOs and Media

SECTION VI: REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

ECOWAS Documents:

- 2001 Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance Supplementary to the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security;
- 1992 ECOWAS Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters;
- 1994 Convention on Extradition;
- 1999 Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peacekeeping and Security;
- 2008 ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework;
- 2006 ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

- 2008 ECOWAS Protocol on the Fight against Corruption;
- 1978 Protocol on Non-Aggression;
- 1981 Protocol on Mutual Assistance in Defence;
- 1977 Framework Agreement of the Protocol on Non-Aggression and Assistance in Defence; and the
- 1982 Convention for Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters Supplementary to the Convention Establishing a Community Guarantee Mechanism for Inter-State Road Transit of Goods;
- Supplementary Protocol Amending and Complementing the Provisions of Article 7 of the Protocol on Free Movement, Right of Residence and Establishment;
- Supplementary Protocol on the Code of Conduct for the Implementation of the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment.

African Union Documents:

- OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, adopted by the 35th ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Algiers, Algeria, in July 1999;
- African Union Plan of Action on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa, adopted by the First High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa, held in Algiers, Algeria, in September 2002;
- Protocol to the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, adopted by the Fourth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 2004;
- Draft Comprehensive African Antiterrorism Model Law, adopted by the meeting of Intergovernmental Experts, held in Algiers, Algeria, in December 2010;
- African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, adopted by the Eighth ordinary session of the Assembly, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2007.

UN and Universal Instruments:

- UNODC, "Crime and instability: Case studies of transnational threats," February 2010;

- UNODC & IMF, "Model Legislation on money laundering and financing of terrorism," December 2005;
- United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001);
- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) Directory of International Best Practices, Codes and Standards (Database);
- United Nations Security Council Directory on reports submitted by states pursuant to resolution 1373;
- United Nations Technical Guide to the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1373 (compiled in 2009);
- United Nations General Assembly Global Counterterrorism Strategy (2006);
- Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, "United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy: Activities of the United Nations system in implementing the Strategy," (A/64/818, dated 17 June 2010);
- Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, "Uniting against terrorism: recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy," (A/60/825, dated 27 April 2006);

- First Report of the Working Group of the United Nations Secretary-General Counterterrorism Implementation Taskforce (CTITF) on Radicalisation and Extremism that Lead to Terrorism: Inventory of State Programmes;
- Financial Action Taskforce (FATF) Recommendations—FATF 40 (October 2003);
- Financial Action Taskforce (FATF)--IX Special Recommendations (October 2001);
- International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 15 December 1997;
- International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism New York, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 April 2005;
- Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1973;
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, signed at the Hague on 16 December 1970;
- International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9 December 1999;

- International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 17 December 1979;
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at Rome on 10 March 1988;
- Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14 September 1963;
- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, signed at Vienna on 3 March 1980;
- Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, signed at Montreal on 1 March 1991;
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23 September 1971;
- Protocol on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation,

signed at Montreal on 24 February 1988;

- Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, done at Rome on 10 March 1988;
- The European Union (EU) Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2005)

Academic Resources:

- John Davis (ed.), African and the War on Terrorism (Great Britain: Ashgate Publishing Ltd., 2007);
- Greg Mills, "Africa's New Strategic Significance," The Washington Quarterly (Autumn 2004);
- Alfred Nhema & Paul Tiyambe Zeleza (eds.), The Roots of African Conflicts: The Causes and Costs (Malaysia: James Currey Ltd., 2008);
- David C. Rapoport, "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism,"
- Andre Le Sage (ed.), African Counterterrorism Cooperation: Assessing Regional and Subregional Initiatives (United States: Potomac Books, 2007);

- "African Regional and Sub-Regional Organizations: Assessing Their Contributions to Economic Integration and Conflict Management," Report of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (October 2008);
- Jason Ipe, James Cockayne, and Alistair Millar, "Implementating the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in West Africa," Report of the Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation;
- "Global Drug Trafficking: Africa's Expanding Role," a publication of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (May 2009);
- Matthew Levitt, "Terrorism in West Africa, Post 9/11" Washington Institute for Near East Policy (March 2004);
- Peter Bergen and Bruce Hoffman, "Assessing the Terrorist Threat," A report of the Bipartisan Policy Center's National Security Preparedness Group (September 2010);
- African Security Review Vol. 15/3 (2006)
- Amado Philip de Andrés, "West Africa Under Attack: Drugs, Organized Crime and Terrorism as the New Threats to Global Security," UNISCI Discussion Paper No. 16 (January 2008);

- Ibaba S. Ibaba, "Alienation and Militancy in the Niger Delta: Hostage Taking and Dilemma of the Nigerian State," African Journal on Conflict Resolution, Vol. 8/2 (2008). P. 11-34;
- International Crisis Group, "Northern Nigeria: Background to Conflict," Africa Report No. 168 (December 2010);
- Alhousseyni Ly, "West Africa: A New Recruiting Front for Al Qaeda?" Maxwell Air Force, Alabama (April 2009);
- Gregory D. Miller, "Confronting Terrorisms: Group Motivation and Successful State Policies," Terrorism and Political Violence Vol. 19 (2007). P. 331-350;
- Khinde A. Bolaji, "Preventing Terrorism in West Africa: Good Governance or Collective Security?" Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa, Vol. 12/1 (2010).

National Resources

- Sierra Leone, Malicious Damage Act (1861);
- Gambia, Anti-Terrorism Act (2002) as amended by the Anti-Terrorism Amendment Act (2008);

- Ghana, Anti-Terrorism Bill (2005);
- Burkina Faso, La Loi No. 060-2009/AN du 17 decembre 2009 Relative à la Répression d'Actes de Terrorime;
- Senegal, Penal Code procedure and La Loi uniforme relative à la lutte contre le branchiment de capitaux, Article 26, and La Loi modifiant le Code de Procédure Penale et relative à la lutte contre les actes de Terrorime (2007);
- Niger, Loi No. 2006-17 du juin 2006 portant sÛreté et sécurité nucléaire et protection contre les dangers des rayonnements ionisant; Décret No. 99-414/PCRN du 6 octobre 1999 et Décret No. 99-417/PCRN du 8 octobre 1999; Arrête No. 06/MAE/C/IA du 24 octobre 2006 portant creation du Comité contre le Terrorisme; et la Code Pénale du Niger (2003/2008) Titre VI concernant la lutte contre le terrorisme e le financement du terrorisme;
- Mali, Loi No. 0825 du 23 juillet 2008 portant repression du terrorisme;
- Liberia, Amended Chapters 14 and 15, subchapter C, Title 26 of the Liberian Penal Law of 1976, making terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery and hijacking as capital punishment.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria, Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act (2004), Economic and Financial Crimes Commission Act (2002), Nigeria Criminal Code (1990) and draft Anti-Terrorism Bill (2011);

- Federal Republic of Nigeria, Terrorism Prevention Bill (TPB), adopted by Parliament on 1 June 2011 and signed into law by the President on 3 June 2011.