



NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INSTITUTIONS IN WEST AFRICA (NACIWA)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS

From 13 to 15 July 2016, the Network of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa (NACIWA) General Assembly gathered in Cotonou, Benin, at the invitation of the National Anti-Corruption Commission of Benin and under the auspices of HEM the President of Benin, Mr. Patrice Talon.

The following NACIWA members attended: ANLC (Benin), ASCE-LC (Burkina Faso), HABG (Côte d'Ivoire), BVG (Mali), HALCIA (Niger), EFCC (Nigeria), ICPC (Nigeria), OFNAC (Senegal), ACC (Sierra Leone) and CNLCSE (Togo). Representatives from ECOWAS, UNODC and civil society also attended the meeting.

The opening ceremony was presided over the Minister of Justice and Legislation from Benin, Mr. Joseph Djogbenou.

The General Assembly considered multiple agenda items, in particular:

- the NACIWA 2015 activity and financial reports,
- the NACIWA 2016 Work Plan, the NACIWA Permanent Secretariat Staffing TORs,
- the draft NACIWA rules of procedure,
- ECOWAS Protocol implementation and its monitoring mechanism,
- country reports on 2015 anti-corruption activities,
- a draft study on anti-corruption institutions in West Africa,
- UNODC's draft regional programme for 2016-2020,
- the draft ECOWAS whistle-blower protection strategy,
- collaboration between NACIWA members and the media and
- the establishment of the Cell Norbert Zongo for Investigative Journalism in West Africa (CENOZO).

At the end of the meeting and in terms of resolutions, the NACIWA General Assembly:

1. **Adopts** the 2015 NACIWA activity report and requests the NACIWA Permanent Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive 2015-2016 activity report which will be validated and published at the next General Assembly;
2. **Requests** the Finance Secretary to draw up a comprehensive report on all financial revenues and expenditures by the next NACIWA General Assembly;
3. **Replaces** Mr. Shollay Davies by Mr. Ady Macauley, Chair of the Sierra Leone Anti-Corruption Commission, as the new Financial Secretary in the NACIWA Executive Committee in line with Article 18 of the NACIWA Constitution;
4. **Adopts** the NACIWA 2016 Work Plan, the NACIWA Permanent Secretariat Staffing TORs and the NACIWA logo;
5. **Requests** all NACIWA members to provide written comments on the draft NACIWA rules of procedure and requests the drafting committee to meet in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, to finalise the draft NACIWA rules of procedure for adoption at the next NACIWA General Assembly;

6. **Takes note** of the coming into being of the ECOWAS Protocol on the fight against corruption with the recent ratifications of Niger and Senegal and **encourages** members to promote the enforcement of the Protocol and **encourages** countries that have not yet ratified to adhere;
7. **Requests** the NACIWA Executive Committee to meet with the President of the ECOWAS commission to discuss collaboration between ECOWAS and NACIWA to promote ECOWAS Protocol implementation;
8. **Requests** the NACIWA Secretariat, in consultation with NACIWA members, to draw up guidelines for the monitoring of ECOWAS Protocol implementation and report to the next NACIWA General Assembly;
9. **Requests** NACIWA members to share electronic copies of their public Annual Reports with the NACIWA Secretariat and ECOWAS Commission for publication on their respective websites;
10. **Requests** the NACIWA Secretariat to pursue efforts to finalise the NACIWA report on National Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa in partnership with UNODC by the next General Assembly;
11. **Adopts** the ECOWAS Whistle-blower protection strategy and **encourages** NACIWA members to support its implementation and invites ECOWAS Commission to organise sensitisation programmes on the strategy across member states;
12. **Invites** ECOWAS to consider drawing up an ECOWAS regulation on whistle-blower protection;
13. **Invites** NACIWA members to provide written comments on the UNODC Regional Programme 2016-2020;
14. **Encourages** NACIWA members to continue collaboration with the media to ensure adequate communication on NACIWA members' activities and discourage the commission of acts of corruption;
15. **Welcomes** the establishment of the Cell Norbert Zongo for Investigative Journalism in West Africa (CENOZO) and **encourages** CENOZO in its work;
16. **Supports** the NACIWA Anti-Corruption Academy Advisory Board decision to organise the second edition of the NACIWA Anti-Corruption Academy at the EFCC Academy in Abuja, Nigeria, from 2 to 12 November 2016;
17. **Takes note** that the next NACIWA Anti-Corruption Academy Advisory Board meeting will take place on 2 September 2016 in Dakar, Senegal;
18. **Encourages** NACIWA members to continue to strengthen bilateral collaboration on preventive measures and corruption investigations and **encourages** the NACIWA Secretariat to facilitate such cooperation, as required;
19. **Expresses gratitude** to Benin State for its hospitality and the effective organisation of this NACIWA General Assembly, in partnership with the NACIWA Secretariat, ECOWAS and UNODC, which allowed for a fruitful meeting;
20. **Decides** to organise the next NACIWA General Assembly in Dakar, Senegal, from 7 to 9 February 2017.

NACIWA General Assembly, 15 July 2016