



The Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional group of fifteen countries, founded in 1975. Its mission is to promote economic integration in "all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters"

The ECOWAS Commission and the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development, more often called The Fund are its two main institutions designed to implement policies, pursue a number of programmes and carry out development projects in Member States. Such projects include intra-community road construction and telecommunications as well as agricultural, energy and water resources development.

The fifteen Ecowas member States elected, since January 2007, Dr Mohamed Ibn Chambas, du Ghana, as their President and as Vice-President, the President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina Faso :

 Bénin  Burkina Faso  Cap-Vert  Côte d'Ivoire  Gambie  Ghana  Guinée  Guinée-Bissau  Libéria  Mali  Niger  Nigeria  Sénégal  Sierra Leone  Togo

The eight Institutions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) are as follows:

- The summit of Heads of States and Government
- The Council of Minister
- The Economical and Social Council
- The Community Parliament
- The Community Court of Justice
- ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID)
- The nine Members Commission, chosen by turn from member States:

Since January 2007, the four year mandate has been attributed to Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.