



BANJUL PLAN OF ACTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) ON THE ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

CONTEXT:

Globally, millions of people including hundreds of thousands in West Africa are not considered nationals by any State and are thus stateless, which limits their enjoyment of the full range of human rights. Among the causes of statelessness in West Africa are gaps in nationality laws and policies that leave some people without recognition of the nationality of any State. Even though there is no comprehensive legal framework to address these gaps, significant efforts have been made by ECOWAS Member States to respond to the issue, by amongst others, acceding to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and/or the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in the Region.

Likewise, the Authority of Heads of State and Government has adopted Protocols further to the Revised Treaty of ECOWAS which address some dimensions of statelessness including the 1979 Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment and the 1982 Protocol relating to the definition of a Community Citizen.

The Abidjan Declaration is a historical instrument and a milestone in the fight against statelessness in West Africa. The Declaration was adopted during the first Ministerial Conference on Statelessness in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, jointly organized by ECOWAS and UNHCR in February 2015. The Abidjan Declaration recognizes that statelessness is a significant issue in the region and sets out 25 specific measures, primarily addressed to ECOWAS Member States, on how to put an end to statelessness by 2024. The conference also resulted in the adoption of 62 recommendations on how to implement the commitments made. The Abidjan Declaration was endorsed by all Heads of States in May 2015 in Accra, Ghana, during the ECOWAS Summit.

The ECOWAS Plan of Action on Eradication of Statelessness 2017-2024 is based on the commitments and recommendations made in the Abidjan Declaration, the Conclusions and Recommendations and in the Communiqué, and therefore strictly follows the

spirit of Abidjan. The Plan of Action entails support measures that ECOWAS and UNHCR can provide to Member States in accordance with Articles 22 and 25 of the Abidjan Declaration; it includes measures that ECOWAS will adopt to follow-up on the requests made by Member States in the Abidjan Declaration and it spells out mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the Abidjan Declaration.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: To ensure compliance with relevant legal, policy and institutional frameworks for eradicating statelessness

ECOWAS Member States recognized that bringing nationality laws in line with international standards on statelessness is a key element in the prevention and reduction of statelessness. To that end, accession to the two Statelessness Conventions and domestication of the Conventions are crucial steps. Two years after the adoption of the Abidjan Declaration, twelve out of the fifteen ECOWAS Member States have acceded to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons,¹ and eleven Member States are party to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.² In two other States accession is currently underway.³

Recognizing the necessity of harmonizing the nationality laws in the sub-region and ECOWAS’s pivotal role in eradication and prevention of statelessness, ECOWAS, in collaboration with UNHCR and the competent institutions of the African Union, will assist Member States by adopting common standards that will guide the reform of nationality legislation of West African States, including *inter alia* the removal of discriminatory provisions in the transmission of nationality and the inclusion of safeguards against statelessness to ensure that every child acquires a nationality at birth. Seven Member States are already in the process of revising their legislation to bring it in line with international standards on statelessness.

Objective 1.1: Accession to the international conventions on statelessness				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
1.1.1 Undertake sensitization and information campaigns in Member States on the need to accede to the International Conventions on	# of campaigns carried out	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR WACSO	Workshop reports	2018

¹ Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Mali, Guinea Bissau

² Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Mali, Guinea Bissau

³ Ghana and Burkina Faso.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

Statelessness for government authorities, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders.		CSOs		
1.1.2 Conduct advocacy visits to decision-makers on accession to the international legal instruments on statelessness.	# of advocacy visits made; # of decision-makers for whom advocacy was conducted	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR CSOs	Reports	2018
1.1.3 Present a Memorandum to the ECOWAS Council of Ministers on the need to accede to the International Conventions on Statelessness.	Memorandum presented to the ECOWAS Council of Ministers	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR CSOs NHRIs	Memorandum; Report of the meeting of Council of Ministers	Dec 2017
1.1.4 Prepare a draft advocacy document for accession to the Conventions on Statelessness.	Availability of document	UNHCR ECOWAS	Draft advocacy document	Dec 2017
1.1.5 Organize an internal validation meeting on the draft advocacy document.	Validation meeting organized	ECOWAS UNHCR	Report of validation meeting	2019
Objective 1.2: Develop a community legal instrument for prevention and reduction of statelessness				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
1.2.1 Draft a legal instrument on Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness.	Availability of legal instrument	ECOWAS Commission	Draft legal instrument	2019
1.2.2 Organize a meeting of experts to validate the draft legal instrument.	Expert meeting organized	ECOWAS Commission	Report of meeting experts	2019
1.2.3 Submit the draft legal instrument to a meeting of relevant ministers.	Submission of draft	ECOWAS Commission	Report of ministerial meeting	2019

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

1.2.4 Submit the legal instrument to the Council of Ministers.	Submission of draft	ECOWAS Commission	Report of ministerial meeting	2019
1.2.5 Submit adopted legal instrument to Authority of Heads of States and Governments for signature.	Submission of draft	ECOWAS Commission	Publication of the legal instrument in the official ECOWAS journal	2019
Objective 1.3: Domestication of the international conventions on statelessness				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
1.3.1 Develop a standard reference framework for review of nationality laws.	Availability of reference framework	ECOWAS Member States in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and UNHCR	Reference framework for review of nationality laws	2018
1.3.2 Organize a meeting to validate the reference framework on review of nationality laws.	Meeting organized	ECOWAS Member States in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and UNHCR	Meeting report	2018
1.3.3 Organize training and information sessions for stakeholders on the importance of domesticating the International Conventions on Statelessness.	# of training sessions organized; # of stakeholder groups trained; training toolkits available	ECOWAS Member States in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and UNHCR CSOs	Meeting reports	2019
Objective 1.4: Support for adoption of the AU Protocol on the Right to Nationality				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

1.4.1 Conduct information sessions and advocacy activities for the ECOWAS Parliament, Court of Justice and Commission on the provisions of the AU Protocol on the Right to Nationality, additional to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.	# of information and advocacy sessions conducted	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR CSOs	Reports	Jan 2018
1.4.2 Organize a meeting of Government experts to prepare for participation of Member States in the meeting of the relevant specialized technical Committees.	Position document	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR CSOs	Meeting report	July 2017

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthening data management systems for effective response to the challenges of statelessness

There is no comprehensive information available on the causes of statelessness and the number and profile of stateless persons in the ECOWAS region. In view of the urgent need to obtain more concrete information about the sources of statelessness and the obstacles to acquisition of nationality as well as potential 'at risk' groups, ECOWAS, in collaboration with UNHCR, will develop a standard framework for the collection of data that will help Member States to comprehensively document the situation of statelessness in their respective countries.

Objective 2.1: Research, analysis and dissemination of data				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
2.1.1 Conduct a regional study on statelessness, assessing obstacles to acquisition of nationality, including birth registration, gender issues and access to	Study on obstacles conducted; technical meeting held;	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Study published, recommendations report available	2018

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

proof of nationality by people residing in the country and by the diaspora.	recommendations available			
2.1.2 Organize a meeting to validate the study.	Validation meeting held	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Meeting report	2018
2.1.3 Develop a reference framework for national studies on statelessness.	Availability of reference framework	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Reference framework on national studies	2018
2.1.4 Organize a meeting to validate reference framework for national studies.	Validation meeting held	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Meeting report	2018
Objective 2.2: Institutionalize collection and dissemination of data on statelessness				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
2.2.1 Develop a standard methodology for data collection on statelessness including during national population censuses.	Availability of standard methodology	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Standard methodology	2018
2.2.2 Organize a validation meeting.	Availability of report of validation meeting	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Report of validation meeting	2018

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

2.2.3 Organize training of national agencies of statistics on data collection on statelessness, taking gender issues into consideration.	# of training sessions organized; # of personnel trained	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Training report	2019
2.2.4 Integrate the findings and recommendations of the above study (Objective 2.1) in the national action plans on statelessness.	Technical meetings held at national level; plan of actions revised on the basis of the findings	ECOWAS Member States	Revised plan of actions	2019

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: Free movement of stateless persons, integration and protection

During the conference in Abidjan, Member States called upon ECOWAS to include in community law rules aiming at guaranteeing a status to stateless persons, their integration and protection including freedom of movement.

Objective 3.1: Determine / Recognize / Grant status to stateless persons

Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
3.1.1 Draft a model law on determination and issuance of statelessness status.	Availability of draft model law	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Draft model law	2017
3.1.2 Organize a meeting of Government Focal Points to validate the draft model law.	Meeting organized	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Meeting report	2017

Objective 3.2: Guarantee the integration and protection of stateless persons under ECOWAS Legal Instruments

Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	------------------------	-----------

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

3.2.1 Organize a workshop on the definition of the specifications and security features of travel documents.	# of workshops organized; # of participants	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Meeting reports	2018
3.2.2 Issue identity cards and travel documents to stateless persons.	# of identity cards and travel documents issued	ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	ID Cards Travel documents	2019
3.2.3 Harmonize special cards and travel documents issued to stateless persons.	# of stateless persons issued the harmonized special card	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR ECOWAS Member States	Harmonized special cards	2018
3.2.4 Conduct sensitization and awareness activities on the special cards and travel documents issued to stateless persons.	# of sensitization and awareness activities conducted	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR ECOWAS Member States CSOs	Reports	Continuous
3.2.5 Entrench the integration and protection of stateless persons in ECOWAS legal instruments.	Community law revised	ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Community law	Continuous

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4: Advocacy and sensitization of populations and stakeholders

Sensitization on statelessness to enhance the public understanding of the concept, the issues related to statelessness and its consequences is a crucial element in the prevention and reduction of statelessness. Governments, civil society, academia and media all have an important role to play in sharing information about statelessness.

Objective 4.1: Institutionalize mechanisms and materials to sensitize stakeholders				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
4.1.1 Set a special date to commemorate the “fight against statelessness” in the ECOWAS region (25 February)	Day identified and endorsed by Heads of States	ECOWAS Commission	Communique, press releases	By end 2017
4.1.2 Develop standardized communication materials on statelessness to disseminate in the region.	Visibility and information materials developed in the three working languages of ECOWAS	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Print, visual and audio material	2018
4.1.3 Develop and implement a regional communication strategy on statelessness.	Strategy approved by ECOWAS Directorate of Communication	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Strategy published in the official ECOWAS Journal	End of 2017
4.1.4 Carry out information campaigns aimed at the general public on the importance of birth registration, the risk of statelessness and procedures to acquire a nationality.	# of information campaigns conducted; # of people targeted	ECOWAS Member States with support of ECOWAS, UNHCR, CSOs, media		Continuous
Objective 4.2: Work with properly trained networks and relays				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

4.2.1 Organize an annual regional civil society forum and capacity building on statelessness.	Forum held with participation of all relevant stakeholders	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR WACSO CSOs	Outcome document available and disseminated	2018
4.2.2 Initiate and support networks on statelessness, targeting youth, women, media, traditional leaders and faith-based organizations.	Network established and operational	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR WACSO	List of members with contact details, webpage, report of activities	End of 2017
4.2.3 Compile and share best practices on the fight against statelessness (webpage).	Webpage created; best practices made available on webpage	ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Webpage	2018
Objective 4.3: Insert nationality and statelessness in standard curricula				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
4.3.1 Develop standard curricula on nationality and statelessness.	Standard curricula developed	ECOWAS ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Official curricula	2019
4.3.2 Infuse the curricula in primary, secondary and tertiary education, including law faculties.	# of schools and universities where new curricula is followed; # of teachers / lecturers / professors trained	ECOWAS Member States	New curricula approved by Member States' Ministries of Education, books and manuals edited and distributed	2019
4.3.3 Develop and institutionalize specific nationality and statelessness course.	Cooperation agreement with academic institution concluded; modules developed;	ECOWAS and UNHCR in cooperation with an academic institution	Cooperation agreement with academic institution, participation certificates issued	2019

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

	# of people trained			
Objective 4.4: Mobilize ECOWAS political leadership				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
4.4.1 Conduct high-level advocacy missions on the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action on the Eradication of Statelessness in each ECOWAS Member State.	# of missions conducted; composition of the delegation	ECOWAS Commission	Mission reports, press releases	2018
4.4.2 Organize at least one annual briefing on statelessness for ECOWAS parliamentarians and judges.	# of ECOWAS parliamentarians and judges briefed	ECOWAS Commission	Briefing report	Continuous
4.4.3 Organize information and training sessions for the national refugee commissions on the issue of statelessness and statelessness status determination.	# of representatives of the national refugee commissions briefed and trained	ECOWAS Commission	Information and training session reports	As of 2017
4.4.4 Include nationality and statelessness in the bi-annual ECOWAS-UNHCR ambassadors' retreats.	Topic discussed during retreats	ECOWAS Commission	Outcome document/report of the retreat	2017
Objective 4.5: Strengthen operational capabilities of the ECOWAS Commission to ensure coordination in the implementation of the Abidjan Declaration				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

4.5.1 Build the capacity of relevant institutions, departments, and directorates in the ECOWAS Commission.	# of trainings conducted; # of people trained; # of technical experts made available to ECOWAS	ECOWAS (Directorate of Humanitarian Affairs) UNHCR	Training reports	Continuous
--	--	---	------------------	------------

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5: Guarantee access to proof of nationality

Lacking access to proof of nationality is a main risk factor that continues to create new cases of statelessness in the region. States therefore committed during the Abidjan conference to reduce risks of statelessness by reinforcing civil registration mechanisms and, in particular, to ensure that every child is registered immediately after birth. Birth registration is key in the prevention of statelessness as it provides children with access to proof of nationality. Nevertheless, birth registration rates are critically low in many parts of West Africa.

Therefore, it is of utmost importance that birth registration is accessible and affordable for everyone on an equal basis, including that every mother has access to birth registration for her children without practical and administrative obstacles. During the ministerial conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Support of Good Governance in Africa, held in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, in February 2015, Ministers from African countries agreed to launch a Decade of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), covering 2015 to 2024, in the effort to register all births and vital events in Africa.

Effective means of inter-state coordination are necessary to confirm the nationality of individuals whose nationality is not determined, including populations living in border areas, disputed areas and nomadic populations. Access to proof of nationality requires a coherent and unified system of identity management. ECOWAS announced at the end of 2015 to allow ease of movement across ECOWAS Member States for its citizens with the use of biometric identity cards.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

Objective 5.1: Ensure universal and reliable birth and marriage registration				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
5.1.1 Develop and implement a policy and programmatic framework on civil registration, including birth registration for the prevention of statelessness.	Common policy and programmatic framework established and approved	ECOWAS in collaboration with UNHCR, UNFPA, UNICEF ECOWAS Member States	ECOWAS press release	2019
5.1.2 Computerize and use ICT for civil status services.	System computerized; digital access to data; # of services computerized	ECOWAS Member States ECOWAS UNHCR	Digital access to civil registration data	2019
5.1.3 Revise national legislation related to civil registration to bring it in line with international standards.	# of States that revised their legislation	ECOWAS Member States	Promulgation of law amendments	2021
5.1.4 Integrate relevant actions of the present plan of action on statelessness into the ECOWAS child and gender programs to ensure unhindered birth registration.	Statelessness mainstreamed into ECOWAS child and gender programs	ECOWAS Commission	Current programs updated	2019
5.1.5 Decentralize civil registration systems in order to improve the access of populations thereto.	# of decentralized centres; coherent decentralization policies adopted; # of health personnel trained; # of health centres involved in the process	ECOWAS Member States	State reports, information and mechanisms for birth registration available at health facilities	2019

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

5.1.6 Sensitize and capacitate traditional authorities and community leaders to actively promote birth registration.	# of traditional authorities and leaders sensitized	ECOWAS Member States ECOWAS Commission UNHCR WACSO	State reports to ECOWAS	2018
5.1.7 Regularly organize trainings on birth registration and its importance for preventing statelessness for all actors involved in the birth registration process.	# of trainings conducted; # and functions of participants	ECOWAS Member States ECOWAS Commission UNHCR WACSO	State reports	2018
5.1.8 Put in place mechanisms to monitor and evaluate effective, viable and accessible birth registration.	# of states with mechanisms in place and operational	ECOWAS Member States	Monitoring reports	201
Objective 5.2: Harmonize/Standardize mechanisms to ensure that everyone (with entitlement to it) has access to proof of nationality whether abroad or in country of origin				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
5.2.1 Develop a Regional strategy and policy guidelines on identity management, including ECOWAS citizenship.	Strategy and policy guidelines developed and approved	ECOWAS Commission	ECOWAS Press release	2019
5.2.2 Implement a coherent and unified system to manage identity documents (including voter cards, ID cards, passports, etc.).	Regulations adopted in all Member States; technical advice provided by ECOWAS	ECOWAS Member States	Publication of regulation	2019
5.2.3 Establish a coherent and harmonized regional system of identification during birth registration.	Technical meetings held at regional level; Regional system established	ECOWAS UNHCR ECOWAS Member States	Meeting reports System established	2021

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

5.2.4 Issue a unique national identification number during birth registration to facilitate the issuance of nationality documents. .	Identification number systematically provided when birth is registered	ECOWAS Member States	Birth certificates and civil registries	2022
5.2.5 Develop practical measures to enable citizens living abroad to prove their nationality.	Technical meetings held at regional level; Measures developed	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR ECOWAS Member States	Meeting reports Measures	2019
5.2.6 Discuss the matter of citizenship for diaspora during the annual meeting of foreign ministers with ambassadors.	Topic discussed at the annual meeting	ECOWAS Member States	Meeting report	2018
Objective 5.3: Institutionalize mechanisms to determine nationality of people living in border and/or disputed areas				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
5.3.1 Establish a committee consisting of representatives from ECOWAS, and respective states to confirm the nationality of affected populations living in border / disputed areas with the support of UNHCR.	Technical meeting held; committee operational	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR ECOWAS Member States	List of committee members	2019
5.3.2 Enshrine in Community Citizenship law that, in the case of state succession, the affected people have the right to choose their nationality.	Technical meeting held; community law amended and approved	ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Publication in official ECOWAS Journal	2019

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6: Establish strategic and operational monitoring and follow-up mechanisms

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

In order to assess progress and achievements in the implementation of the commitments made in Abidjan, monitoring and follow-up mechanisms will be put in place at the national and regional level, including all stakeholders involved in the fight against statelessness. ECOWAS and UNHCR support Member States with capacity-building measures and by sharing best practices.

Objective 6.1: Ensure that all states and key stakeholders have effective and operational focal points				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
6.1.1 Designate Government Focal Points on statelessness and inform UNHCR and ECOWAS by note verbale.	Focal Points appointed; UNHCR and ECOWAS notified	ECOWAS Member States	Note verbale	2017
6.1.2 Develop terms of reference for the Government Focal Points.	Technical meeting held; TORs developed and shared with States	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	TORs	2017
6.1.3 Provide training on statelessness to the Government Focal Points.	Annual training delivered; # of focal points trained	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Training reports	2018
6.1.4 Convene regular meetings with the Focal Points to share best practices, inform strategies and policies and to assess progress.	At least two meetings conducted per year	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR ECOWAS Member States	Meeting reports	As of 2018
6.1.5 Designate officially a structure/resource person within ECOWAS as regional focal point on statelessness.	ECOWAS focal point appointed; Member States and UNHCR notified	ECOWAS Commission	Note verbale	2017
Objective 6.2: Ensure that all States adopt and implement a plan of action on the eradication of statelessness based on harmonized methodologies				
Activities	Performance	Responsible	Source of	Timeframe

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

	Indicator	Authority(ies)	Verification	
6.2.1 Develop standardized methodologies for the development and adoption of national action plans.	Technical meeting held; methodology developed and disseminated	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR ECOWAS Member States	Methodology shared	2017
6.2.2 Deliver training on development of national action plans for national focal points and national committees on the eradication of statelessness.	# of trainings delivered; # of countries where trainings took place	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Training reports	2017
6.2.3 Adopt national action plans on the eradication of statelessness.	# of countries that have adopted national action Plans	ECOWAS Member States	Publication of state policies	2018
6.2.4 Develop and maintain an e-learning resource centre for Member States as a means of ensuring information sharing and capacity building.	Webpage available and regularly updated	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Webpage address	2018
6.2.5 Develop specific methodologies in relevant areas in support of Member States' implementation of their action plans (in the areas of legislative reform and Model Laws, linkage between local services for effective birth registration, determination of nationality in transborder areas etc.)	Technical meetings with ECOWAS, UNHCR, Government Focal Points held; # of methodologies developed and shared	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR	Methodologies shared	2018
Objective 6.3: Institutionalize monitoring and evaluation mechanisms				
Activities	Performance Indicator	Responsible Authority(ies)	Source of Verification	Timeframe
6.3.1 Develop a standard reporting template on the implementation of the	Technical meeting held;	ECOWAS Commission	template	2017

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS) PLAN OF ACTION
ON ERADICATION OF STATELESSNESS 2017 – 2024

national action plans.	template developed and shared	UNHCR ECOWAS Member States		
6.3.2 Convene a yearly follow-up conference to review the progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action.	Conference held; # and function of participants	ECOWAS Commission ECOWAS Member States UNHCR	Outcome document	Continuous on an annual basis
6.3.3 File periodic reports on the implementation of the national action plans during the yearly follow-up conference.	# of States reporting; # of reports received	ECOWAS Member States	Reports	Continuous on an annual basis
6.3.4 Report on nationality and statelessness to ECOWAS parliamentary sessions twice a year.	# of States reporting; # of reports received	ECOWAS Member States	Reports	Continuous on a bi-annual basis
6.3.5 Synthesize and analyse Member States' annual reports on implementation of action plans and provide feedback and guidance for Member States.	Analysis conducted; feedback provided	ECOWAS Commission (UNHCR to support)	Analysis and feedback report	Continuous on an annual basis
6.3.6 Organize annual meetings to review reports of CSOs on statelessness.	# of meetings organized	WACSOF	Reports	Continuous on an annual basis
6.3.7 Organize meetings twice a year between UNHCR and ECOWAS to evaluate implementation of the regional plan of action on the eradication of statelessness.	# of meetings held	ECOWAS Commission UNHCR WACSOF	Meetings reports	Continuous