



**ECOWAS TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITY BUILDING (ECOWAS-TNCB)
NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEES ON TRADE (NCCT)**

Country: Abuja, NIGERIA

Date: 26 – 28 January 2015

CONCEPT NOTE



TNCB Trade Negotiation
Capacity Building

In collaboration with



ECOWAS TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITY BUILDING (ECOWAS-TNCB) NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON TRADE (NCCT)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. ECOWAS Trade Negotiation Capacity Building (ECOWAS-TNCB) project is jointly funded by the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). It was designed to overcome some obstacles to the efforts of ECOWAS Member States to intervene effectively in international negotiations and multilateral trade agreements. It also aims to build the capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to negotiate on behalf of its Member States.
2. The ECOWAS Trade Negotiation Capacity Building (TNCB) project is in its second phase. During this phase, the project has worked to set up and/or operationalise Inter-Institutional Committees (IICs) in 15 ECOWAS countries. Besides, the TNCB project is building the capacity of ECOWAS experts in order to negotiate for its Member States.
3. The National Coordinating Committee on Trade (NCCT) meets annually to approve the budget and work programme. Their last meeting was held in Abuja in March 2011.

II. OBJECTIVES

4. The main objectives of the meeting are as follows:
 - Review the different reports of the activities of the National Coordinating Committee on Trade (NCCT) of Member States
 - Suggest new ideas to improve on project's functioning
 - Examine the way forward for the project

III. EXPECTED RESULTS

- a. Shared experience and lessons from the different reports from the NCCT in Member States
- b. Proposal on Way Forward for the project.

IV. PARTICIPATION AND SPONSORSHIP

5. ECOWAS Member States, Staff of the Commission as well as resource persons are expected to participate at this meeting.

6. ECOWAS Commission will sponsor the cost of participation of National Coordinators, TNCB Focal Points, as well as Resource persons. This sponsorship covers their per diem and transport.

V. VENUE AND DATE

7. The meeting will hold at the ECOWAS Commission, Abuja from 26 to 28 January 2015.

VI. METHODOLOGY

8. The meeting will be divided into various sessions as detailed in the agenda annexed to this Concept note.
9. Please note that participants would be required to provide a PowerPoint presentation of the activities of their IICs in Session 2 (Presentation of Country reports). Presentations should be no longer than 15 minutes each and should cover the following areas: (i) Composition of IIC; (ii) Summary and Key recommendations of IICs; (iii) Overview of IIC Work Programme & Achievements; (iv) Assessment of Needs

VII. WORKING DOCUMENTS

10. The working papers are:

- Concept note
- Draft Agenda and Work programme
- Reports of IIC activities in Member States
- Report and evaluation of End of Phase II of the project
- Phase III Concept Note

VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

11. For more information on the organization of this meeting, you are kindly requested to direct all your inquiries to Mr. Kola SOFOLA, Project Coordinator (Email: ksofola@ecowas.int) and Ms. Oluyemisi IDOWU (Email: okuyemiid@yahoo.com)