



**COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE, ECOWAS
COUR DE JUSTICE DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ, CEDEAO
TRIBUNAL DE JUSTIÇA DA COMUNIDADE, CEDEAO**



PRESS RELEASE

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Public Information & External Relations Division

ECOWAS COURT OF JUSTICE SET TO HOLD ITS 2026 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN DAKAR, SENEGAL

The Community Court of Justice, ECOWAS will convene its 2026 International Conference from 21 to 25 September 2026 in Dakar, Senegal. The event will bring together senior judicial and government officials of ECOWAS Member States, Heads of ECOWAS Institutions, Heads of national courts, legal practitioners, academics, civil society organisations, development partners, international organisations, members of the press among other key stakeholders.

Held under the theme, “ECOWAS Court of Justice at the Crossroads: Justice, Innovation, Human Rights Protection and the Future of Regional Integration in West Africa,” the conference comes at a critical moment for the Court and the broader regional integration process. It will provide a platform for deep reflection, dialogue and collective action on how regional justice can respond effectively to emerging challenges while strengthening human rights protection and embracing innovation.

Seven thematic sessions will examine key issues including human rights jurisprudence, enforcement and compliance, artificial intelligence and data protection, arbitration and ADR, the proposed appellate chamber, environmental justice, and refugee protection and forced displacement. Discussions will focus on strengthening human rights protection, enhancing enforcement of Court decisions, advancing digital innovation, addressing emerging environmental and displacement challenges, and exploring new pathways for regional commercial dispute resolution.

Through plenary sessions, expert panel discussions, roundtables and an exhibition, the Conference will promote knowledge-sharing, partnerships and practical solutions for strengthening regional justice delivery.

The Conference is expected to produce actionable recommendations and an Outcome Document setting out strategic priorities for the future of the Court and regional integration in West Africa.

The Community Court of Justice is set to welcome distinguished participants to Dakar for this important dialogue on building a more effective, accessible, innovative and human rights-centred regional justice system.

The Community Court of Justice, ECOWAS, established as the principal judicial organ of the Community, is mandated to interpret and apply Community law, adjudicate disputes, and address human rights violations within Member States, among others. Over the years, it has played an important role in upholding justice, strengthening the rule of law, protecting human rights, and advancing regional integration across West Africa.

For further information, visit the Community Court of Justice, ECOWAS website at www.courtecowas.org or contact:

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