

**CONSOLIDATED FIFTH PROTOCOL TO THE MANO RIVER
DECLARATION:
PARTICIPATION OF OTHER WEST AFRICAN STATES
IN THE MANO RIVER UNION**

WE, THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE MANO RIVER UNION:

IN FURTHRANCE of the aims and objectives of the Mano River Union;

CONSEQUENT on the decision as recorded in the Eighth Article of the MANO RIVER DECLARATION;

PURSUANT to the Ninth Article of the MANO RIVER DECLARATION;

RECOGNISING that the Ninth Article of the MANO RIVER DECLARATION contemplates the possibility of full Membership as well as were limited forms of participation by other West African States in the Mano River Union;

RECOGNISING also the need to clarify the principles governing the participation in the Union by other West African States;

DESIRING to establish principles and procedures for the admission to full Membership of the Mano River Union by other West African States;

DESIRING further to establish principles and procedures for the participation by other West African States in the various activities of the Union where a coordination of efforts, or a joint or cooperative approach, is mutually advantageous;

DO HEREBY ESTABLISH THIS PROTOCOL TO THE MANO RIVER DECLARATION:

**A
FULL MEMBERSHIP**

FIRST that a written application shall be made to the Union Ministerial Council through the Union Secretariat which shall transmit the written application to the Union Ministerial

Council.

SECOND, That the Union Secretariat, at the direction of the Union Ministerial Council shall consult with the State applying, with a view to examining the substantive institutional administrative and financial terms of accession and shall report thereon to the Union Ministerial Council within a time period to be determined by the Union Ministerial Council; and

THIRD, That any West African State may be admitted to full membership of the Mano River Union following the conclusion of an agreement, setting forth the terms of admission.

B

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

FOURTH, That the Union Secretariat on the directive of the Union Ministerial Council shall consult with the State applying to be admitted as an Associate Member with a view to examining the substantive institutional administrative and financing terms of an Associate Membership and shall report thereon to the Union Ministerial Council within the time period to be determined by the Union Ministerial Council.

FIFTH, That any West African State may be admitted to Associate Membership of the Mano River Union following conclusion of an agreement setting forth the terms of admission.

C

PARTICIPATION IN SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

SIXTH That on a written application from the Government of a non-Member State in West African Sub-Region the Union may enter into a common arrangement with such State with the purpose of taking coordinated actions or carrying out joint, shared or cooperative projects.

SEVENTH That common arrangements under the auspices of the Union

shall be within the capacity of the Institutions of the Mano River Union in particular the Secretariat, for effective guidance and administration.

EIGHTH, That common arrangements under the auspices of the Union shall service the common arrangements with such assistance from the administrations of participating States as may be agreed between the participating States and the Union.

NINTH, That the direction and scope of such arrangements shall be consistent with the aims and objectives stated in the Second Article of the MANO RIVER DECLARATION.

TENTH, That interested Governments, through the Union Secretariat, may transmit to the Union Ministerial Council proposals identifying possible common arrangements.

ELEVENTH, That the Union Secretariat shall explore the direction, scope and practical feasibility of such proposals, as well as the mutual advantage to be gained, and shall report thereon to the Union Ministerial Council.

D

RELATIONS WITH INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

TWELFTH, Provided that the Secretary-General notify the Union Ministerial Council of any special arrangement in consultation and seeking prior approval of Council for arrangement relating to cooperation.

E

OBSERVERS

THIRTEENTH, That the Union Secretariat may invite interested

Governments and Inter-Governmental Organizations to participate at Meetings of the Institution of the Mano River Union on such terms and conditions as the Union Ministerial Council may from time to time prescribe.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Mano River Union have hereunto affixed our respective signatures:

DONE at

this day of in the year

One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty

in three Originals, two in the English Language and One in the French Language, each text being equally authentic.

FOR THE REPUBLIC
OF SIERRA LEONE

FOR THE REPUBLIC
OF LIBERIA

FOR THE PEOPLE'S
REVOLUTIONARY
REPUBLIC OF
GUINEA