

OFFICIAL GAZETTE



of the
**COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN
AND SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Vol. 6 No. 5	Published by Order of the Council	December 2000 Price:
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By Order of the Council

Mr. Erastus J.O. Mwencha, MBS
Secretary-General
COMESA

LEGAL NOTICES NOS. 105 TO 118

1. COMESA Logo Competition

Decision

105. Council decided that the Logo Competition be re-launched with comprehensive specification.

2. Status of Implementation of the New COMESA Structure; Staff Recruitment and Renewal of Contracts

Decisions

106. Council decided as follows:

- (i) that the passed recruitment plan be reviewed on annual basis at the time of the consideration of the budget in view of future changes in priorities and programmes.
- (ii) For financial Year 2001 the following posts be filled:

(a)	Chief of Strategic Research and Planning	P4
(b)	Senior Trade Officer	P4
(c)	Head of Protocol and General Services	P3
- (iii) In the event that the arrears are paid by Member States, the post of Translator – English to French should be filled, taking into account the Authority and Council decision on recruitment. In the meantime, the Secretariat will continue to use short-term consultants.

3. Geographical Distribution of Professional Posts at COMESA Secretariat

Decision

107. Council decided that recruitment for the remaining posts be made from those member States that are under-represented at the Secretariat; subject to meeting the requirements of Article 17 of the Treaty and Authority decisions on budgetary matters.

4. 1999 Financial Statements and External Auditor's Report

Decisions

108. Council approved the 1999 Financial Statements of the COMESA Secretariat, COMESA Centre and COMESA Court of Justice.

109. Council directed that in future the full management letter be provided to the Policy Organs.

5. 2000 BUDGET PERFORMANCE

Decision

110. Council commended Egypt, Mauritius and Swaziland which had fully met their obligations to COMESA budget for the year 2000.

111. Council proposed that the Chairman of the COMESA Authority be requested to write a personal letter on this issue to his colleagues who were in arrears.

6. THE COMESA Centre

Decision

112. Council called upon Member States with arrears on COMESA Centre to settle their dues without further delay as heavy interest was being incurred on the outstanding loan of COM\$528,352.95.

7. The Budget Performance – COMESA Court of Justice

Decisions

113. Council :

- (a) Commended the Member States that had paid their contributions to the Court's Budget and encouraged them to continue to do so;
- (b) Urged the Member States that had not done so yet to urgently pay their contributions to the Court's Budget; and
- (c) Urged all Member States when contribution to the Court's Budget to comply with Regulation 26 of the Court's Financial Regulations and Article 166 (6) of the COMESA Treaty in order to ensure proper planning and execution of activities by the Court.

8. COMESA Secretariat Budget for the Year 2001

Decisions

114. Council:

- (a) approved the COMESA Secretariat budget of COM \$5,639,300;
- (b) validated contribution assessment formula adopted in 1994 for the Years 2000 and 2001;

- (c) directed the Secretariat to carry out the Study on the Review of the Formula. Member States should be availed of the Study prior to its submission to the Policy Organs Meetings in May 2001. To this end, the Secretariat will work closely with the Committee of High Commissioners and Ambassadors resident in Zambia. Member States which are not represented in Zambia be consulted;
- (d) the contributions ratios as applied to the Budget of Year 2000 be applied to the budget of 2001. With regard to the ratio allocated to Tanzania for 2000 Budget, Council decided that this be distributed to the other members on a pro rata basis subject to the lower and upper ceiling being maintained at 1 and 13 percent respectively;
- (e) directed that the Secretariat use the IMF and World Bank statistics for the calculation of the assessment of the contributions of the member States. The sources of these statistics be indicated on the working documents;
- (f) approved that the following posts be filled:
 - (i) Chief of Strategic Research and Planning (P4)
 - (ii) Senior Trade Officer (P4)
 - (iii) Head of Protocol and General Services (P3)

115. In concluding its discussion on the budget, Council observed that if the Member States were to clear their arrears, the Secretariat's financial position would greatly improve. This would also have direct bearing on the levels of current contributions of the Member States.

11. **Budget for the COMESA Court of Justice for the Year 2001**

Decisions

116. Council:
- (a) directed that in future the Court of Justice should justify under a separate report any proposal for new recruitment;
 - (b) the posts of Assistant Registrar (P4) and Finance Officer (GS9) be deferred until a comprehensive study on the Court of Justice manpower complement is considered at the next meeting of the council;
 - (a) Approved the 2001 budget of the COMESA Court of Justice of COM \$595,538 is attached at Annex VIII(a) and VIII(b).

117. Council mandated the Bureau and the Secretary General to address all the concerns of the Member States.