

Libre circulation des produits alimentaires:

Améliorer la sécurité alimentaire en Afrique de l'Ouest par le développement du commerce intra-régional





Efforts Toward Regional Integration

Why are there still barriers to trade in staple commodities in West Africa, despite signed trade agreements?

Salifou Tiemtoré

Director of Customs, ECOWAS

Accra, Ghana January 29-31, 2013



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Background: the EFTP ECOWAS Free Trade Plan

- Key Dates:
 - 1979: agricultural products
 - 1990 (2000) industrial products
- Certificates of origin:
 - Farming, Ranching: NOT NEEDED
 - Industrial Products: MANDATORY









Barriers to free movement under the EFTP

- Tariff barriers
- Non-tariff barriers
- Non-compliance with protocols
- Lack of understanding of legislation









Barriers to free movement (continued) under the EFTP

Lack of:

- Regional trade policy
- Regional policies:
 - SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)
 - TBT (Technical Barriers to Trade)
- Complementarity of national development policies
- Monitoring mechanism









Efforts of ECOWAS (Commission)

- Dialogue with Member States:
 - Difficulties of implementation (annual meeting)
 - Non-compliance with protocols
- Training of stakeholders
- Ongoing: Agriculture legislation









Conclusion:

- Community legislation exists to regulate intracommunity trade, even if it is not complete (quality policy)
- Establish a national and regional mechanism to regulate trade in agricultural products











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Thank you

Salifou Tiemtoré