

## **CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE YOUTH ESSAY COMPETITION**

The Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is about to commemorate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Commission intends to mark this genuine event through a *Youth Essay Competition*. The best two Essays per country in all the member States will be published as a Book. The three winners (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) will be selected among the total of 30 Essays. The Essays are aimed at a broad audience and should therefore be written in a non-technical style. The General theme of the Book around which all the Essays should be crafted is: *Relevance and Challenges of Regional Integration in West Africa; the role of the ECOWAS Community, Citizens, Member State Governments and Institutions in enhancing this relevance and in Meeting the challenges.*

This General Theme has been broken down into three (03) sub-themes for the Essay Competition. Abstract and outline of Essays are therefore invited on these sub-themes below:

1. *Regional Integration or Regional Co-habitation: Challenges and opportunities for ECOWAS youth;*
2. *West African Youth a catalyst in the ECOWAS integration process;*
3. *Expectations and aspirations of West African Youth in the Regional Integration process;*

### **Please note:**

1. The Age range of eligible youth is between 16-20 years
2. The Essays are aimed at a broad audience and should therefore be written in a non-technical style.
3. Abstracts should not be more than 250 words
4. Abstracts are to be submitted to the Selection Committee no later than March 30, 2015 at the following address: [fk Mohammed@ecowas.int](mailto:fk Mohammed@ecowas.int)
5. All submitted articles should include the full name and contact details of the author.
6. Authors of selected abstracts will be invited by the Selection Committee to write a full article – detailed guidelines will also be provided
7. Final (revised) draft of the paper to be submitted by May 15, 2015
8. The best two Essays per country in all the Member States will be published. The three winners (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) will be selected among the total of 30 Essays.
9. Acceptance of an abstract does not automatically result in the publication of the final Essay.
10. All queries and submissions should be sent to: [fk Mohammed@ecowas.int](mailto:fk Mohammed@ecowas.int) with the subject: **Call for Expression of Interest for the Youth Essay Competition**