

Draft Roadmap for the Development of Common Rules for the Regulation of Renewable Energy in the ECOWAS Region

Name of Country:

No.	Rules	Options	Comments	Proposed Timeline
1	Licensing/ Registration/ Permit for Renewable Energy	<p>The NRA shall ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development of a clear and transparent procedure for market entry (licenses/Permits/Registrations) for RE, making the necessary distinction between small (mini grid) projects and the larger projects -The procedure must take into account the need to establish a simplified process that will not constitute a hindrance to investment and energy access especially to rural and underserved communities -An acceptable threshold should be imposed where licensing or permitting is not considered necessary, but projects may be registered for the purpose of data collation -The Establishment of mechanisms, formal or informal, for coordinating activity with other governmental bodies with responsibilities in the RE field, and promote methods for “one-stop shopping” by interested RE investors 		

2	Procurement of Renewable Energy	<p>The NRA shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Public utilities are prohibited from negotiating power purchase agreements with a generator of electricity or contract power for electricity generated from renewable energy sources unless the contracted power has gone through an open competitive and transparent procurement process. -Consider the introduction of renewable energy auctions as a form of competitive power procurement procedure. 		
3	Incentives for Promotion of Renewable Energy	<p>The NRA shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Regulations are developed in support of the incentive scheme selected. Lack of certainty as to the applicable scheme or the failure to commit to that choice will impair the success of RE development. -Any incentive scheme or mechanism selected must have built-in provisions to allow for flexibility in the event of significant market changes or unintended consequences of the incentive schemes -The selection of an appropriate incentive scheme or mechanism must be done after wide consultation with the key stakeholders and an impact assessment to assess both the short and medium term impacts of the chosen scheme/mechanism 		
4	Specific Tariff Rules for Renewable Energy	<p>The NRA shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A cost-reflective tariff methodology that takes into account the different renewable energy technologies is developed and enforced by the NRA - Where considered necessary feed-in-tariffs must be introduced based on a maximum capacity as well as implementation timeline -For RE generations that are located far from population centres, network and interconnection costs must be considered and taken into consideration in the RE economics. The costs of meters and other equipment used to make net metering and smart grids possible should be considered as part of the overall energy cost and the bigger economic picture. -Affordability should also be a key consideration in tariff designs and where relevant, tariff designs should take into account subsidies and applicable grants deployed to the project to lower end-user tariffs or provide for life-line tariffs in the design. 		

5	Specific Technical Rules for Grid Connected Renewable Energy	<p>The NRA shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Technical grid connection parameters for RE IPPs and Small Power Producers (SPPs) must be available and accessible. These can be contained in the Grid Code or the NRA may wish to develop a specific Renewable Energy Sub-code. -The technical conditions relating to the connection of electricity generation facilities based on renewable energy sources to the national electrical network and the evacuation of electricity so as to guarantee the quality of the electrical energy injected on the network must be clearly spelt out -The Grid Code must also provide clear rules on congestion management, particularly when the grid capacity is limited. For markets that are vertically integrated, the NRA should facilitate the integration of renewables into the existing markets, specifically by establishing connection rules that prevent the incumbent from initiating discriminatory practices. 		
6	Provisions for Net Metering	<p>The NRA shall ensure that when considered appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A Net Metering Rule or Sub-Code for connecting Renewable Energy Generating Systems to the Distribution System, providing the guidelines and technical connection conditions for the inter-connection of renewable energy generating facility to the low voltage distribution system under a net metering scheme is developed -Consultation with the distribution utilities to determine the price at which a distribution utility shall procure electricity from a consumer generator under the net metering scheme at any specific time based on an assessment study -The System Operator should be involved in the definition of net metering technical rules 		
7	Balancing the System	<p>The NRA shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Grid Code makes provisions for system balancing, including specific provisions for reserve and reactive power control services, to address abnormal frequency and voltage conditions -That diversification of the technologies of renewable generation is encouraged, as diverse generation sources would make for better system stability without significantly increasing development costs. 		

8	Renewable Energy Contracting Templates	<p>The NRA shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Develop a model RE PPA template specifying and setting the contractual terms and conditions between the seller and the buyer -The model RE PPA shall take into account the differences in RE sources and make adequate provision for the different RE sources, where necessary -Create a standard contracting format for net metering contracts where there is a net-metering scheme in operation, in the country. 		
9	Environmental Considerations	<p>The NRA shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The producer of electricity from renewable energy sources shall be required to manage waste from equipment, structures or materials from renewable energy according to the rules and the provisions in force on environmental protection or any specific regulations enacted by the NRA. -The producer should be mandated at its own expense, to dismantle equipment, structures, materials used for the generation of electricity based on renewable energy sources and restore the production site at the end of operation. 		
10	System Monitoring	<p>The NRA shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mandate all RE licensees or permit holders to submit annual reports on their operations in a format specified by the NRA - Establish a registry of all renewable energy installations below the threshold requirements for licensing and permits and encourage the affected power producers to register their RE systems -Ensure that the registry system is a simple registration procedure to avoid placing additional burdens on renewable energy developers 		

11	Consultations and Regulatory Impact Assessment	<p>The NRA shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure that a wide stakeholder consultation is undertaken as part of the rule making process for RE Regulations. -Conduct an impact assessment of the proposed regulations to support renewable energy development. -Create an internal procedure for carrying out impact assessments. 		
12	Supplementary Regulations	<p>The NRAs should consider the development of supplementary regulations in emerging RE issues including the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Distributed Generation -Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) -Green Hydrogen -Demand-side Response (i.e responsiveness of demand to price signals) 		