

COMISSAD DA CEDEAO

ECOWAS COMMISSION

COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO

101, YAKUBU GOWON CRESCENT  
ASOKORO DISTRICT  
P.M.B. 401  
ABUJA, NIGERIA  
E-MAIL: [cedeno@ecowasmail.net](mailto:cedeno@ecowasmail.net)



Tel: (234-9) 314-7647-9  
(234-9) 314-7627-9  
FAX: (234-9) 314-7646  
(234-9) 314-3005

REF: ECW/REL/PEC/46/PS/kaam

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010

The Chief Executive Officer,  
Global Biofuels Limited,  
159A, Isale Eko Avenue,  
Dolphin Estate,  
Osborne Road,  
Ikoyi,  
Lagos.

Dear Sir,

RE: **ENDORSEMENT OF THE MANUFACTURE OF ETHANOL FROM SWEET SORGHUM AS AN ECOWAS-SUPPORTED PROJECT**

I refer to your presentation to me and my Team comprising of Senior Staff from the Macroeconomic Policy, Agriculture and Infrastructure Departments in my office ECOWAS Commission on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November, 2009 on the above. This presentation followed previous presentations to the Private Sector Directorate (department for Macro-economic Policy) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009.

Following this presentation and further internal discussions, the ECOWAS Commission endorses the sweet sorghum-to-ethanol project on the following grounds.

1. That this project fits perfectly into our Agriculture programmes being implemented within the context of the ECOWAS Common Agriculture Programme (ECOWAP) as follows:
  - a. The establishment of the large scale plantations of sweet sorghum under the concepts of “nucleus estates” and the complementary “outgrower programmes” will help promote rural economic development;
  - b. The plantations of sweet sorghum will be eligible for carbon credits;
  - c. The manufacture of ethanol from sweet sorghum is a value addition process which can generate significant resources for ECOWAS member states;
  - d. Sweet Sorghum grains can also be consumed and thus enabling the region to address the Food Security issues;
  - e. The leaves of the sweet sorghum plant can be used as animal feed.

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES  
COMMUNIDADE DOS ESTADOS DA AFRICA DO OESTE  
COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES ETATS DE L’AFRIQUE DE L’OUEST

2. The project also fits into our infrastructure development initiative in the area of the generation of power to meet both domestic and industrial requirements in all the 15 member states. In particular the following are of interest to the Commission;
  - a. The production of Ethanol from the sugar extracted from the sweet sorghum stalk and the subsequent use of the Ethanol to produce biofuels;
  - b. The burning of the stalk for energy generation.
3. By implementing this project, the region will also contribute to the global initiatives being undertaken under the Copenhagen declaration to address the Global Climate Change challenge.
  - a. The plantations of sweet sorghum will help the effort of the sub-region combat the effects of global warming and check desertification.

The Department(s) of Macro-economic Policy, Agriculture and Infrastructure by a copy of this letter are being directed to work with your Company to explore the possibility of implementing the project in ECOWAS Member States.

The Commission welcomes this private-sector-led initiative and looks forward to further cooperation which will benefit the sub-region and promote economic integration.

Yours sincerely.



**Dr. Mohammed Ibn CHAMBAS**  
President of the ECOWAS Commission

- cc. The Commissioner,  
Department for Macroeconomic Policy,  
ECOWAS Commission,  
Abuja.
- cc. The Commissioner,  
Department for Agriculture and Environment,  
ECOWAS Commission,  
Abuja.
- cc. Commissioner,  
Department for Infrastructure,  
ECOWAS Commission  
Abuja.