ECOWAS REGIONAL COMPETITION AUTHORITY
AUTORITÉ RÉGIONALE DE LA CONCURRENCE DE LA CEDEAO
AUTORIDADE RÉGIONAL DA CONCORRÊNCIA DA CEDEAO

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INAUGURAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
ECOWAS REGIONAL COMPETITION AUTHORITY (ERCA)
Banjul, The Gambia, 15-17 September 2026

INFORMATION NOTE

The ECOWAS Regional Competition Authority (ERCA) warmly welcomes you to its Inaugural Annual Conference, convened under the theme "Competition Policy and Market Integration in ECOWAS: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities".

Below is some useful information regarding the administrative arrangements for this Conference.

I. Venue and dates

The Conference will be held from 15 to 17 September 2026 at the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Centre (SDKJ-ICC), Bijilo, The Gambia.

II. Conference working hours and languages

The conference will be held from 09:00 to 17.30 each day.

Conference sessions will be conducted in English, French, and Portuguese with simultaneous interpretation provided.

III. Secretariat and Registration

Participant registration will take place from 08:00 a.m. to 09:00 am on 15 September 2026 at the SDKJ-ICC. Participants are strongly encouraged to register online through the following link https://erca-arcc.org/final-registration-form-for-badge-for-participants-erca-inaugural-annual-conference/

Onsite registration will also be available at the Conference venue.

IV. Hotel Information

Participants are advised to make their own hotel reservations. A list of recommended hotels is attached to this bulletin. Participants are also encouraged to confirm their hotel reservations early (by sending reservation bookings and itineraries to annualconf@erca-arcc.org) to avoid last-minute inconveniences. Special rates for the Conference have been negotiated with the recommended Hotels.

V. Travel

Participants are advised to arrive in Banjul on 14 September and, where possible, to return to their respective countries on 18 September 2026.

Arrangements have been made to welcome and assist you upon arrival at the airport.

For participants who require an entry visa for The Gambia, arrangements are being made with the relevant authorities to facilitate, where possible, the issuance of visas upon arrival.

The Gambia charges an airport mandatory security levy of USD 20 for both arriving and departing passengers. Holders of a diplomatic passport are exempted.

Participants are advised to travel with their vaccination certificates, as they may be requested by health authorities at the airport.

VI. Airport Transfers and Local Transportation

Transport shall be provided for all delegates from Banjul International Airport to the recommended hotels, and between the hotels and the Conference venue (SDKJ-ICC).

The conference organizer will provide support on airport formalities, reception, accreditation, and escort of official delegations.

VII. Time and Weather

The time in The Gambia corresponds to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

In September, the weather is generally warm, with rainfall and periods of sunshine, as September falls within the rainy season.

VIII. Banks and Currency

The official currency is the Gambian Dalasi (GMD). The exchange rate is approximately USD 1 = GMD 73. Commercial banks handle international currencies and accept major international payment cards. Banking hours are generally Monday to Friday, 08:00 – 16:00.

Licensed foreign-exchange bureaus are widely available in Banjul, Serekunda, and along the coastal strip. Major hotels also offer currency exchange services.

IX. Electrical sockets and voltage

Type G three-pin plugs are commonly used in The Gambia. If your device has a different type of plug, you will need a travel adaptor to use it with the local sockets.

The voltage in Gambia is **220–240 V**, 50 Hz. You are therefore advised to check that your electrical equipment is compatible with this voltage before use.

Please note that travel adaptors only change the shape of the plug to fit the local sockets; they do not change the voltage or frequency of the electricity supply.

"Type G"

X. Telephones

Direct international telephone connections are available. When calling The Gambia, dial +220 followed by the required number.

Internet access is widely available in hotels and at the Conference venue.

The mobile network operators in The Gambia are Africell, QCell, Comium and Gamcel, with SIM cards available at the Banjul International Airport and at Customer Service Centers of the respective Mobile operators.

XI. HOTELS

Delegates are advised to choose from the recommended list of hotels below. Special rates have been negotiated for the Conference. Reservations should be made directly with the hotels, quoting the reference "ERCA Annual Conference – September 2026".

XII. LIST OF RECOMMENDED HOTELS IN THE GAMBIA – Rate in USD

Name	Telephone/Email	Standard Single Room	Delux suite	Distance to Venue
Coco Ocean Resort & Spa	+220 446 6500/+2207100043 rdm@cocoocean.com	140	165	1.5 KM
Coconut Residence	+2207396798/+2204137211 coconutresidenceandspa@gmail.com	96	125	0.5 km
Bakadaji Hotel	+220 2280610 fom@bakadajihotel.gm	80	100	1.8 km
Tui Blue Tamala Hotel	+2203776090 Bobou.cham@tui-blue.com	100		1.9 km
African Princess Hotel	+220 7333354/+220 7333360	125	145	1.9 km
Senegambia Beach Hotel	+220 2000348/+2202000168 fom@senegambiahotel.com	80	100/120	0.8 KM

XIII. Enquiries

All inquiries should be addressed to : annualconf@erca-arcc.org or to

- Mr. Serge Kouadio, PO Information Technologies & Communications. Phone +220 74289255.
- Mr. Yahya Samateh (Head of Competition and Economic Research Division). Phone: +220 250 7433.
- Mr. Ibrima Tambajang (Human Resource Officer) Phone: +220 9986822