

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE COORDINATION OF EARLY  
WARNING AND RESPONSE MECHANISM BILL, 2021**

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A  
**BILL**  
ENTITLED

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE COORDINATION OF EARLY  
WARNING AND RESPONSE MECHANISM ACT, 2021**

**AN ACT** to establish the National Centre for the Coordination of Early Warning and Response Mechanism to assist the ECOWAS Commission in the timely identification of emerging crisis in the West African sub-region and the implementation of an improved crisis response mechanism and to provide for related matters.

**PASSED** by Parliament and assented to by the President:

*The National Centre for the Coordination of Early Warning and Response  
Mechanism*

**Establishment of the National Centre for the Coordination of Early  
Warning and Response Mechanism**

1. (1) There is established by this Act, the National Centre for the Coordination of Early Warning and Response Mechanism within the Office of the President.

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- (2) The Centre shall operate as
- (a) a national agency for strategic research; and
  - (b) a non-profit organisation with a public interest mandate.

**Objects of the Centre**

2. The objects of the Centre are to assist the ECOWAS Commission in
- (a) the timely identification of emerging crisis in the West Africa sub-region; and
  - (b) the implementation of an improved crisis response mechanism.

**Functions of the Centre**

3. To achieve the objects of the Centre, the Centre shall
- (a) collect, centralise, and analyse data or information provided by
    - (i) State parastatals;
    - (ii) local authorities;
    - (iii) civil society organisations;
    - (iv) the ECOWAS Regional Early Warning and Response Centre; or
    - (v) any other relevant person;
  - (b) propose response options following an in-depth analysis of challenges or threats related to human security; and
  - (c) collaborate with relevant public institutions in matters related to human security.

**Headquarters of the Centre**

4. The headquarters of the Centre shall be located in Accra.

*Governance of the Centre*

**Governing body of the Centre**

5. (1) The governing body of the Centre is a Board consisting of
- (a) a chairperson nominated by the President;
  - (b) the Ministers responsible for
    - (i) National Security;
    - (ii) Defence;
    - (iii) the Interior;

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- (iv) Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration;
- (v) Finance;
- (vi) Health; and
- (vii) Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation;
- (c) the Attorney-General;
- (d) the Minister assigned responsibility for an emerging crisis;  
and
- (e) the Director of the Centre.

(2) The President shall appoint the chairperson and other members of the Board in accordance with article 70 of the Constitution.

**Functions of the Board**

6. The Board shall

- (a) oversee the activities of the Centre;
- (b) approve the work plan and budget of the Centre; and
- (c) perform any other function that is necessary for the attainment of the objects of the Centre.

**Tenure of office of members of the Board**

7. (1) A member of the Board shall hold office for the period specified in the letter of appointment.

(2) A member of the Board may, at any time, resign from office in writing addressed to the President through the chairperson.

(3) A member of the Board, other than the Director of the Centre, who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without sufficient cause ceases to be a member of the Board.

(4) The President may, by a letter addressed to a member of the Board, revoke the appointment of that member.

(5) Where a member of the Board is, for sufficient reasons, unable to act as a member, the chairperson shall determine whether the inability would result in the declaration of a vacancy.

(6) For purposes of subsection (5), “sufficient reasons” include

- (a) stated misbehaviour or incompetence;
- (b) inability to perform the functions of office by reason of infirmity of body or mind; and
- (c) wilful violation of the oath of secrecy.