

#RightsMigrateToo

The ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security
outlines important aspects that define rights/entitlements and obligations for migrant workers and their employers.



THE CONVENTION APPLIES TO:

- ① Workers that are nationals of ECOWAS countries and who have worked or are working in an ECOWAS country and other countries party to the ECOWAS General Convention.
- ② Refugees or Stateless persons who are working in and live in an ECOWAS country and who have paid contributions to a social security fund.
- ③ Family members and/or survivors of the workers mentioned above.





10 POINTS ON THE CONVENTION

- ① It applies equally to all ECOWAS nationals living and working in the ECOWAS region.
- ② It covers all nine branches of social security and provided for portability of social security benefits.
- ③ It lays out the rules for payment of benefits outside country of employment.
- ④ It clarifies which is the applicable law for mandatory and voluntary insurance.
- ⑤ It clarifies the rules on accumulation of insurance period and prorated payment of benefits.
- ⑥ It clarifies the basis for the calculation of benefits.
- ⑦ It lays out the special rules for invalidity.
- ⑧ It outlines the rules for:
 - a. invalidity, old age and survivors' benefits;
 - b. occupational injury and diseases;
 - c. family and maternity benefits;
 - d. health care and sickness benefits;
 - e. unemployment insurance benefits.
- ⑨ It provides for the maintenance of rights between provident funds and pension funds.
- ⑩ It addresses taxes and fiscal implications as well as the rules concerning recovery of contributions and disputes, as well as claims and appeals.



OTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE CONVENTION

The convention clarifies how it applies with relation to other conventions governing social security. It explains the set up and mandate of the Committee of Experts on Social Security. Finally, it addresses the principle of mutual administrative assistance between countries to secure access to and portability of social security benefits within the ECOWAS region.

Supported by

