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Martin SCHULZ, EP President meets Ike EKWEREMADU, Speaker of the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States:

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- arrival and roundtable - extracts from the press point
Background: EP President Martin SCHULZ held a bilateral meeting with Ike EKWEREMADU, Speaker of the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States on Wednesday 30th January 2013 at the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels. They spoke about the the situation in Mali and the European French led intervention and the ECOWAS (Economic Community Of West African States)engagement the 'AFISMA' (African-led International Support Mission to Mali)in the region, the results of the donor conference in Ethiopia. Ike Ekweremadu, a Nigerian lawyer at his profession, is a member of the People's Democratic Party in Nigeria and has been a Deputy Senate President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria since April 2007. He is particularly well known for his battle for improving the financial conditions of the citizens of the West African States.



Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Exterior shot of the European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, (1 shot)	00:00:05
00:00:10	Martin SCHULZ, EP President meets Ike EKWEREMADU, Speaker of the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States, handshake and photo opportunity, (1 shot)	00:00:09
00:00:19	Ike EKWEREMADU, Speaker of the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States, signs the 'Guest book', tour de table, (8 shots)	00:00:42
00:01:01	SOUNDBITE (English): Martin SCHULZ, EP President: "We raised the most important point for the time being the situation in Mali and the European French led intervention and the ECOWAS (Economic Community Of West African States)engagement the 'AFISMA' (African-led International Support Mission to Mali)in the region, we hope that it is a success and that we will contribute with the measures that will stabilise not only Mali but the whole region and to fight really against terrorism by creating more stability. therefore the second point was a debate	00:00:52

	more stability, therefore the second point was a debate about economic exchange, because such measure must be accompanied with economic support and with money to create more stability."	
00:01:53	SOUNDBITE (English): Martin SCHULZ, EP President: "Finally we discussed that the Visa regime remains to be an obstacle for deepened economic cooperation between our two regions and I promised to the President that I together with my colleagues in the European Parliament will do the utmost to accelerate a better visa regime in relation with the EU and the ECOWAS organisation."	00:00:28
00:02:21	SOUNDBITE (English): Ike EKWEREMADU, Speaker of the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States: "We believe that first of all it is our regional problem for which we getting assistance from the rest of the world, our goal is to take the initiative in assuring not only that there is a road back to soften the region but that it is also sustained and it will also require the sustained support in this direction, so I want to thank you for this promise to help us in this regard. We also hope that very shortly some of the problems could become a problem of the past due to the active support."	00:00:34
00:02:55	END	00:00:00