

# Minutes of the Meeting between the SNMC and the ECOWAS Commission

**Date:** 18/11/2016

**Place:** Abuja, Nigeria

**Time:** 15:30-16:30

**Participants:** List of attendance in Appendix

**Prepared by:** **François Xavier Salambanga**, ICAO Regional Officer Communication Navigation and surveillance and Dr. **Paul Antoine Marie Ganemtoré**, Project Director Air Transport ECOWAS Commission

## **Introduction**

Further to a request of the Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (**NAMA**) a delegation of the Satellite Network Management Committee (**SNMC**) paid a courtesy visit to the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja on 18 November 2016. The delegation of the SNMC was composed of representatives from the “Agence pour la Navigation Aérienne en Afrique et à Madagascar” (**ASECNA**), the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (**GCAA**), the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (**NAMA**), the Roberts Flight Information Region (**Roberts FIR**) and the Regional Office of the International Civil Aviation Organization (**ICAO**) for Western and Central Africa (**WACAF**). The delegation was led by Mr. **Paul Oki**, Company Secretary to **NAMA**, assisted by Mr **Badara Tarawaley**, the Secretary General of the Robert FIR.

The delegation was received by Dr. **Paul Antoine Marie Ganemtoré**, Project Director of Air Transport at the ECOWAS Commission, who introduced Representative of the Commission.

**Mr. Paul Oki** expressed the gratitude of the SNMC to the ECOWAS Commission for hosting this meeting and outlined the importance of the AFISNET Network for the provision of Air Navigation Service in the Region.

The opening session was marked by a statement of Dr. **Guevera A. YAO**, Coordinator of the Community Development Programme (**CDP**), Macroeconomic Policy Department, ECOWAS Commission, who welcomed the delegation of the SNMC and underscored the importance of the air transport industry is the development agenda of the Region.

The participants were invited to introduce themselves prior to the discussions.

The following agenda was agreed and discussed during the meeting:

- I. Presentation by the SNMC**
- II. Discussion**
- III. Future actions**

## **I. Presentation by the SNMC**

**Mr. François-Xavier SALMBANGA**, Regional Officer in charge of Communication, Navigation and Surveillance, ICAO, WACAF Office, Secretary of the SNMC, made a presentation on the AFI Satellite Network (**AFISNET**). The presentation focused on the following topics:

- Vision, mission and composition of AFISNET;
- Operational service supported by AFISNET;
- SNMC mechanisms and meetings;
- Regional Recommendations and outcome of the AFISNET Evaluation
- AFISNET Re-engineering Project Scheme and expected benefits for the ECOWAS Region
- Project funding requirements and expected assistance from the ECOWAS Commission
- Next Steps

## **II. Discussion**

The discussions centered on issues for clarification on the project scope, the availability of relevant documents, the methodology of estimation of the cost submitted for funding, the experience of SNMC members in Public/Private Partnership (**PPP**).

The CDP indicated that the development of air transport is part of the seven priority projects identified by ECOWAS. Moreover, the project for the AFISNET modernization and re-engineering is eligible as regional project and is included as a component of the Air transport development project.

In this regards, a template for a project on the development of air transport industry in ECOWAS Region was shared with the participants. This template includes relevant information regarding the AFISNET modernization project.

The meeting was informed that a roundtable meeting with potential investors and development partners, including the **AfDB**, the **World Bank**, the **Islamic Development Bank**, is planned to take place at the end of March 2017, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

In order to consolidate the project data sheet it was requested that the SNMC should send any basic information such as:

- **Project Terms of References;**
- **Technical parameters;**
- **Detailed cost Estimation;**
- **Project Action Plan**
- **Expected benefits for the ECOWAS Region**

In this regard it was agreed that the CDP should send to the Secretariat of SNMC a template for the collection of the relevant information.

In order to ensure effective communication the meeting also agreed to organize video/teleconferences between the SNMC and the CDP to discuss follow up actions required for the roundtable.

The SNMC indicated their availability to provide additional clarification, if needed, to ensure the effective organization of the Donors' roundtable.

### III. Future actions

The following actions/ activities would be conducted between January to March 2017

<b>N°</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Actor</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.	<b>Report on the meeting</b>	SNMC/CDP	ASAP	On going	
2.	<b>Diffusion of the report</b>	SNMMC	ASAP	On going	
3.	<b>Provision of the template for data collection</b>	CDP	ASP	Not started	
4.	<b>Filling up of the template</b>	SNMC	2 weeks after reception	Not started	
5.	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Teleconference</b>	SNMC/CDP	16 January 2017	Not started	To be coordinated
6.	<b>Finalization of project sheet</b>	CDP	February 2017	Not started	
7.	<b>Roundtable</b>	CDP/SNMC	March 2017	Not started	To be coordinated