



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION  
WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA OFFICE**

**Twenty-sixth Meeting of the AFI Satellite Network Management Committee (SNMC/26)  
(Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 19-23 November 2018)**

**Agenda Item 3: Evaluation and Re-engineering of AFISNET**

**Outcome of the AFISNET Boards meetings**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>
<p>This paper presents the outcome of the AFISNET Boards meetings and calls for the future actions &amp; to be conducted for AFISNET modernization and re-engineering. <b>Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3:</b></p>
<p><b>REFERENCE(S):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Doc 9750, <i>Global Air Navigation Plan 5<sup>th</sup> Edition</i></li><li>▪ Report on AFISNET Board JTE preparatory Technical Coordination meeting , Dakar 05 April 2018</li><li>▪ Minutes of the AFISNET Board Meeting, Montreal, October</li></ul>
<p><b>Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s) and ASBU Performance Improvement Areas and ASBU B0 Modules:</b> <b>Strategic Objective(s):</b> <b>A</b> – <i>Safety</i>, <b>B</b> – <i>Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency</i>, <b>ASBU PIAs &amp; B0 Modules:</b> All applicable to AIM, ATM &amp; MET and CNS systems</p>

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The SNMC 25<sup>TH</sup> meeting recognized that since the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015 during which the results of the External Audit of AFISNET was presented to the SNMC Board, the issue on the funding of the project has become a hurdles to its development. The meeting also recognized that an agreement on a funding mechanism as part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

1.2 Under its Conclusion 25/14: ***Finalization of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)***, the meeting urged ANSPs who have not yet done so to endeavor provide not later than 09/03/2018, ASECNA with their comments on the draft Memorandum of Understanding under development at the aim to at govern the framework of bilateral and multilateral cooperation between members.

1.3 The meeting therefore agreed under its conclusion 25/15: ***Coordination meeting of the SNMC Board***, to convey in Dakar, a SNMC Board meeting during the first quarter of 2018 in order to approve the AFISNET re-engineering and modernization Project scheme and signed the Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**). The meeting tasked ASECNA to kindly host such meeting in Dakar and the Secretariat to facilitate its organization.



## 2. DISCUSSION

### *First session of the AFISNET Board coordination meeting*

2.1 The AFISNET Board held the first session of its coordinating meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the premises of ASECNA. This meeting was preceded by a Technical meeting of the SNMC Joint Technical Team (JTE) for AFISNET modernization and re-engineering. The technical meeting reviewed and updated the draft Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) for the Share Use of Air Navigation Services and/or Systems and Assistance, together with its relevant annexes,

2.2 The AFISNET SNMC Board was briefed on the background on AFISNET re-engineering and modernization project. The project scheme was presented to the meeting as well as the draft MoCs and their Annexes consisting on technical agreement for the improvement of Air navigation service through by the four ANSPs operating AFISNET.

2.3 SNMC Board signed the main MoC Board with the objective to bring together the various agreements for the pooling of different services and/or facilities owned and/or operated by the parties. The MoC thus establishes a framework for collaboration based on the principle of equity, mutual compensation and mutual benefit, enabling cooperation between the parties concerning the air navigation services.

2.4 Moreover, the agreement aims to improve interoperability of CNS/ATM systems and harmonize operational and technical procedures in the Flight Information Regions (FIR) where the parties are responsible for the provision of air traffic services in order to ensure safety and efficiency in air traffic management.

2.5 To complement the basic agreement, the Board of the SNMC signed Six (06) Annexes to the MoC with the purposes to set up a framework of cooperation between ASECNA, GCAA, NAMA AND ROBERTS FIR on:

- Exchange of ATS messages
- Exchange of PLN messages
- Shared use of radio stations
- Network Interconnection
- Shared use of Surveillance Data
- Voice Communication between
- Aeronautical Information data exchange

The Board meeting also approved and signed the updated Form of Agreement of the SNMC.

### *Second session of the AFISNET Board coordination meeting*



2.6 The second session of the AFISNET Board coordination meeting was held in Montreal Canada on Friday 12 October 2018 at ICAO Headquarters in Montreal on the sidelines of ICAO's 13th Air Navigation Conference.

2.7 The meeting analyzed the three options for financing the re-engineering of the AFISNET Network, as proposed by the SNMC:

- **Common funding source.**

In this scenario, donors or funders consider the project as a sub-regional Aeronautical Telecommunication Project.

- **Common funding with direct mobilization resources by ANSPs**

In this case, each ANSPs will mobilize and bring its own resources for the funding based on the cost estimation for its contributing nodes to be modernized. This Scenario is similar to the one used to fund the Audit.

- **Prefunding the total cost of the project by one or more ANSP in a cost recovery basis.**

This scenario requires a Memorandum of Understanding to include in the project and schedule for reimbursement of the prefund.

2.8 Taking into account the need to have a synchronized implementation schedule, the Administrators of the AFISNET network decided as follows:

- 1) To have a follow up meeting of Directors General with ECOWAS to explore the possibilities of seeking financing for the Project:
- 2) In the absence of financing from ECOWAS, ASECNA will lead the Team to seek for possible options of financing or even fully pre-finance the reengineering of the network, pursuant to Article 5 of the MOU signed between the various parties on 06 April 2018 in Dakar:
- 3) In the case that ASECNA fully finances the Project, GCAA, NAMA and ROBERTS FIR shall refund their respective portions of the financing according to an agreed repayment schedule, subject to approval of their respective Board or supervising Ministry as may apply;
- 4) A joint Team composed of experts from the four Air Navigation Services Providers (ASECNA, GCAA, NAMA, and ROBERTS FIR) will be set up to conduct the re-engineering activities, in accordance with Article 6 of the MOU signed between the various parties on 6 April 2018 in Dakar



ICAO

**SNMC/26 WP 04**

2.9 The Meeting also emphasized the need for strong collaboration on the various stages of the Project including but not limited to, tender specifications, project management and the general administration of the Project and decided that a Technical Team should update the Technical and financial details of the Project in the framework of SNMC for the perusal of the various DGs.

**3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information presented in this working paper, highlighting the Progress made so far in the AFISNET re-engineering and modernization;
- b) Identify the appropriate remaining action in order to insure the effective conduct of the project.

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