



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
NINETEENTH MEETING (APIRG/19)
Dakar, Senegal (28 to 31 October 2013)

Agenda Item 3: Performance Framework for Regional Air Navigation Planning and Implementation

3.4 Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS)

SATELLITE AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES FOR AFRICAN REGION (SAFIR) PROJECT

(Presented by the ASECNA)

SUMMARY	
The purpose of this information paper is to inform and raise awareness on the on-going SAFIR project of capacity building for the implementation of GNSS – EGNOS in AFRICA.	
REFERENCES: Project of Support on the air transport and satellite services applications in Africa, funded by EU and executed by ACP.	
<i>Strategic Objective(s)</i>	This working paper relates to the Awareness and communication

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The SAFIR (Satellite Air Navigation Services for AFRICAN Region) project, being implemented by ASECNA and its European partners (EGIS AVIA, ESSP and PILDO), started on 15 January 2013 for a duration of 2 years. Its objective is the development of core technical competences within the relevant ACP organisations, which would constitute a “GNSS Programme management capacity “in Sub-Saharan Africa.

2. ACTIVITIES

2.1 The project is designed to set up, staff and operate an EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (10 staff members) with a proper regional participation of the beneficiary countries and to support the organization with a number of Working Sessions of Stakeholders concerned with the development of GNSS/EGNOS in Sub-Saharan Africa.

2.2 Inception period

2.2.1 The first 2 months were dedicated to the analysis of the existing situation and the definition of the plan of works of the 2 years. The inception report was presented, discussed in detail and adopted by the Programme Steering Committee in April 2013 in Brussels.

2.3 Activity 1: Staffing of the EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office:

2.3.1 The following documents were developed by the Project Implementation Team (PIT) and approved by the ACP Secretariat and the European Commission (DG DEVCO and DG ENTR):

- Vacancy notices for the 5 first posts to be staffed: *JPO Director, JPO Deputy Director, GNSS Programme Manager, Certification/Safety Expert and Legal/Economic Expert* with an Application Form to be filled in by the candidates.
- Two procedures (one for the JPO Director and another one for the JPO Experts) for the identification, selection and recruitment of the JPO staff.
- These procedures serve as guidelines for the PIT in its recruitment task and ensure a fair and transparent process based on clear eligibility and competences criteria.

2.4 By end of June 2013 after a transparent process of 5 ½ months, 10 candidates were selected and attended in Trieste (Italy) from 15 July to 6 August a training on Space Programme Management and legal & regulatory matters delivered by the sister project TREGA (TRaining for EGNOS in Africa) led by UNESCO/ICTP (International Centre for Theoretical Physics). The candidates were from: *Angola, Botswana, Cape-Verde, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo and Senegal*.

2.5 The final selection of the 5 first candidates was made by a selection committee in Brussels on 11 September 2013 on the basis of the marks of the Trieste exams and the application file of each candidate, and for the post of Director, after interviews of the 2 candidates to that post.

The committee was formed of 1 ACP representative, 2 from the EC (DGs DEVCO & ENTR), 1 independent expert (Prof R Chaabouni) and 2 key experts of the SAFIR PIT.

The 5 staff members are from *Tanzania* (JPO Director), *Senegal* (Deputy Director), *Togo* (GNSS Programme Manager) and *Niger* (Certification & Safety Expert and Legal & Economic Expert) will join the EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office in the next few weeks.

2.6 The recruitment of the 5 other posts (2 *GNSS Experts, 1 Aviation Application Expert, 1 Operation Expert and 1 Other Applications Expert*) is currently under process. The received applications will be soon evaluated.

2.7 Activity 2: Set-up and support for GNSS/EGNOS Working Sessions

2.7.1 Working Sessions (WS) are an essential tool to help defining today and future needs regarding the future GNSS/EGNOS users. Working Sessions are thus a substantial activity of the project that will permit to address potential key aspects that need to be debated with the main Stakeholders (system provision, system performance, certification, liability, safety, governance).

2.7.2 The PIT in cooperation with the ACP Secretariat and the EC (DGs DEVCO & ENTR) discussed the objectives of the 1st Working Session (WS1) and drafted its Terms of Reference & budget that were finally approved. *The WS1 took place in Dakar (Senegal) from the 22nd to the 24th of May 2013 and had 2 main objectives:*

- *To raise awareness on EGNOS initiatives in Africa; and*
- *To get African Stakeholders' expectations on EGNOS missions and service provision.*

More than 20 participants attended and had a complete overview of the African EGNOS initiatives. Brainstorming sessions were organized to let African key actors express their needs and views for Africa in terms of missions and service provision regarding the future EGNOS system under definition.

2.7.3 This first Working Session was a success, thanks to the active involvement of all the participants, to their very valuable contributions in the discussions. The discussions enabled to share African expectations regarding EGNOS missions and service provision over Africa.

2.7.4 *The WS2 will be held in Ethiopia on 3, 4, 5 & 6 December 2013 and will focus on Governance, Certification and Liability.* The PIT has prepared Terms of Reference and a detailed draft agenda which are under discussion with the ACP Secretariat and the EC (DEVCO and DG ENTR).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this paper; and
- b) encourage the implementation of this project as well as all on-going initiatives in the improvement of the air navigation services in AFI region.

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