

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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EX.CL/350 (XI)

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE
THIRD AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE THIRD AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The third African Union Conference of Ministers responsible for Air Transport was organised in collaboration with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and held at the African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 10 to 11 May 2007 under the theme *“Achieving a single, safe and secure airspace for Africa’s development and integration”*. The Ministerial Conference was preceded by a preparatory meeting of experts from Member States held from 7 to 10 May 2007.

2. The main objective of the conference was to review the progress made and take decisions on the implementation of specific activities related to decisions, resolutions and action plans previously adopted by the Ministers in their 1st and 2nd Conferences held respectively in Sun City, South Africa, in May 2005 and in Libreville, Gabon in May 2006. In summary, the main issues addressed by the Ministers during their 3rd Conference include the following:

- Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
- Strengthening the capacities of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);
- Common African external air transport policy;
- Aviation security;
- Aviation safety and environmental protection.

3. The current agenda of the continent in air transport focuses on the liberalisation of air transport markets within the context of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision with a view to enhancing the contribution of the sub-sector to Africa's development and integration. Complementary to this objective, is the adoption of a common African external air transport policy in order to ensure that the continent speaks with one voice on its common interests in air transport. Also, in line with the strategy of building a strong single air space in the continent, the Ministers have committed themselves to ensuring that high industry standards are maintained with regard to aviation safety, security and environmental protection.

4. Specifically, the conference was convened to decide on the setting up of the institutional and legal framework of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision covering the following aspects:

- Executing Agency
- Harmonisation of the rules of competition in the air transport industry
- Dispute Settlement Mechanism
- Evaluation of the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision

5. Also, the Ministers were expected to adopt continental Guidelines for Negotiation of Air Service Agreements between Member States of the African Union and European

Union (EU) States as Africa's common position in response to the European Union new external air transport policy requiring that all bilateral air service agreements (BASAs) involving its Member States be renegotiated to include EU "Community Clause" legally designating the EU as a single party in those agreements against individual third countries African States included.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE

6. Forty one (41) Member States were represented at the Conference including: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

7. The following Regional Economic Communities (RECs) also took part in the Conference: The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU).

8. Also in attendance were the following (13) continental and international organizations: NEPAD Secretariat, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), African Airlines Association (AFRAA), Agency for the Safety of Aerial Navigation in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA), International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), International Air Transport Association (IATA), Industry Strategy for Security Group (ISSG), Aviation Safety Enhancement Team (ASET), Société pour la Promotion d'une Compagnie Aérienne Régionale (SPCAR) and Airlines Association of Southern Africa (AASA).

9. The Meeting was conducted by the Bureau of the African Union Conference of Ministers responsible for Transport whose membership is constituted as follows:

Chairman:	Republic of Congo (Central Africa)
1 st Vice-Chairman:	Algeria (North Africa)
2 nd Vice-Chairman:	Djibouti (East Africa)
3 rd Vice-Chairman:	South Africa (Southern Africa)
Rapporteur:	Burkina Faso (West Africa)

A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1999 YAMOOUSSOUKRO DECISION ON THE LIBERALISATION OF AIR TRANSPORT MARKETS IN AFRICA

i. Setting up of the Executing Agency

10. The conference considered the outcome of a study conducted to determine appropriate modalities for the setting up of the Executing Agency responsible for the economic oversight of the liberalised air transport industry in Africa as provided for under Article 9 of the Yamoussoukro Decision and, in view of need to strengthen AFCAC as

well as limit the number of air transport specialized agencies in Africa, decided as follows:

- Entrust to AFCAC the duties/functions of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
- Request the African Union Commission to explore the possibilities of providing financial assistance to AFCAC to enable it to execute its new functions;
- Urge African Union Member States to continue supporting AFCAC in order to build its capacities, particularly by paying up their contributions and liquidating their contribution arrears as well as secondment of national experts, organisation of meetings, etc.;
- Urge further Member States of the African Union to make the necessary arrangements to put in place legal, institutional, material and financial conditions to enable AFCAC to execute its functions as the Executing Agency as soon as possible
- Request the African Union Commission to set up a working group to work out appropriate solutions to the issues raised in the preceding sub-paragraph.

11. Finally, the Ministers adopted a Resolution entrusting the Functions of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision to AFCAC attached to this report as Annex 2.

ii. Harmonisation of Competition Rules, Elaboration of the Dispute Settlement Mechanism and Evaluation of the Implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision

12. The Ministers also reviewed the progress made by the African Union Commission in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in drafting the texts concerning the harmonization of competition common rules, the dispute settlement mechanism and evaluation criteria of the Yamoussoukro Decision and decided as follows:

- Proceed with a the process of validation and finalisation of draft texts on the harmonization of competition rules, the dispute settlement mechanism and evaluation criteria of the Yamoussoukro Decision; and
- Conduct a study on the impact and impediments in the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision with a view to proposing appropriate solutions.

B. AFRICAN COMMON EXTERNAL AIR TRANSPORT POLICY

13. In line with the Ministerial resolution on the African external air transport common policy adopted in Libreville in May 2006, the African Union Commission had prepared a draft text on Guidelines for the Negotiation of Air Service Agreements between Member States of the African Union and European Union States for the consideration and adoption by the Ministers at their Third Conference.

14. The conference discussed at length the submitted Guidelines and, while reaffirming their commitment to a common African position on this matter, the Ministers agreed that more analysis should be carried out on issues on which clear consensus could not be reached particularly on the legal nature and implication of the Guidelines should they be binding or non-binding. They finally agreed to:

- Renew their commitment to an African common policy position during negotiations between Member States of the African Union and Member States of the European Union; and
- Request the African Union Commission to convene a meeting of experts representing Member States, RECs and concerned African Institutions to reflect on the African common position in the field of air transport and propose a common draft text to that end.

15. The Ministers also accepted the offer of the Government of the Republic of Congo to host in Brazzaville the aforementioned meeting of experts at a date to be set by the African Union Commission.

C. BUILDING THE CAPACITIES OF THE AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION COMMISSION (AFCAC)

16. The Ministers noted the financial difficulties facing AFCAC due to arrears in contributions amounting to 3,076,435 USD, indicated by regions as follows: Southern Africa: 5.24%, Central Africa: 21.57%, East Africa: 9.95%, West Africa: 39.86%, North Africa: 23.28%.

17. The Ministers consequently urged AFCAC Member States to rapidly settle their arrears and pay their contributions in time as well as support AFCAC through special grants, secondment of national experts to the AFCAC secretariat and hosting of its meetings so as to enable AFCAC to discharge its functions in line with its objectives.

D. AFRICAN COMMON CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

18. The Ministers noted the multitude of challenges facing the African civil aviation industry including inadequate infrastructure and facilities, obsolete equipment, poor route interconnections, inefficient and costly air transport services as well as looming safety and security threats and agreed on the necessity of Member States to pool their efforts and adopt a common approach in order to strengthen air transport within the continent as well as play a significant role in the highly competitive global market.

19. They, hence, decided to request the African Union Commission to set up a Working Group composed of all concerned stakeholders in the field of air transport in Africa to develop and present to the next Ministerial Conference a Draft African Common Civil Aviation Policy.

E. CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

20. The Ministers discussed issues raised in the presentations made on the state and strategies for improving civil aviation security as well as environmental protection in Africa and, to that effect, adopted a Declaration on Civil Aviation Security in Africa aimed at strengthening control systems for unlawful acts of interference in the field of civil aviation in the continent. The Declaration is appended to his report as Annex 3.

21. They also underscored the complementary nature of the said Declaration and the Resolution on Aviation Safety adopted during their Second Conference in Libreville in May 2006 both of which would assist Member States in better complying with Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

F. 2007 – 2010 PLAN OF ACTION

22. The Ministers adopted a Plan of Action (Annex 4) outlining the activities aimed at implementing their decisions and commitments for the period 2007 – 2010. Furthermore, the Ministers requested the Commission to consolidate the Plan of Action with the one previously adopted at their second Conference held in Libreville, Gabon in May 2006. Finally, they tasked the African Union Commission with responsibility for the implementation of the consolidated Plan of Action and evaluation of progress attained in that regard.

III. FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

23. At the end of their meeting, the Ministers adopted a Final Communiqué which contains the main conclusions and decisions of the Conference including their commitments and activities to be undertaken in the implementation of their decisions on the various issues identified in the development of the air transport industry in Africa. The Final Communiqué is attached to this Report as Annex 1.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

24. In view of the critical importance of the contribution of air transport in the socio-economic development and integration of Africa and the decisions taken by the Ministers responsible for air transport on the various issues essential to strengthening the role of the sub-sector, the Executive Council is invited to:

- 1) Take note of the outcome of the Third African Union Conference of Ministers responsible for Air Transport;
- 2) Commend the Ministers responsible for air transport for their comprehensive deliberations on the key issues facing the African air transport industry as of current;
- 3) Endorse the Resolution on entrusting the functions of the Executing Agency of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision to the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);

- 4) Request the Commission to oversee the implementation of the Resolution on entrusting the functions of the Executing Agency to AFCAC as soon as possible;
- 5) Urge Member States to provide the necessary support to AFCAC including fulfilling all their financial obligations in order to enable it to accomplish its objectives;
- 6) Request the Commission, in collaboration with the RECs, Member States and other stakeholders to finalise the preparation of a Common African Position on Negotiation of Air Service Agreements with Third Countries;
- 7) Further request the Commission to complete the harmonisation of competition rules, elaboration of the dispute settlement mechanism and conduct an evaluation of the implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision;
- 8) Endorse the **Declaration on Civil Aviation Security**;
- 9) Endorse the **2007 – 2010 Air Transport Plan of Action**; and
- 10) Appeal to the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); the African Development Bank (ADB), the European Union and other development partners to support the implementation of the 2007 – 2010 Air Transport Plan of Action of the African Union.

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Annex I

FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE THIRD AFRICAN UNION
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE
FOR AIR TRANSPORT

FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE THIRD AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT

On 10 and 11 May 2007 was held in Addis Ababa (Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia) the Third African Union Conference of Ministers Responsible for Air Transport, under the theme: **"Achieving a single, safe and secure airspace for Africa's development and integration"**.

Forty one (41) Member States, RECs and continental and international organizations were represented at the conference.

The opening ceremony of the Conference was placed under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Girma WORLDE-GIORGHIS, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia who gave the Ministers words of wisdom regarding the effective implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision.

The Ministers attending the Conference considered notably items relating to the setting up the Executing Agency provided for in the Yamoussoukro Decision, the African common external policy regarding negotiations between States Members of the African Union and European Union Member States and the Declaration on Civil Aviation Security in Africa.

As a result of their deliberations, the Ministers reached the following Conclusions:

1- Proposal for the setting up the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision

The Ministers reaffirmed the urgency to put in place the Executing Agency responsible for economic supervision of the liberalized air transport industry in Africa with a view to speeding up the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision. To this end, they adopted a Resolution which provides as follows:

- The duties/functions of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision will be entrusted to AFCAC;
- The African Union Commission has been directed to look into the possibilities of providing financial assistance to AFCAC ;
- African Union Member States were requested to continue supporting AFCAC in order to build its capacities, notably by paying up their contributions and arrears in contributions, including secondment of national experts, organization of meetings, etc.;

- Member States of the African Union Commission were urged to make the necessary arrangements with a view to meeting legal, organizational, material and financial conditions for the operation of AFCAC (with immediate effect) as Executing Agency as soon as possible.

2- African Common External Policy on Negotiations between Member States of the African Union and European Union States

The Ministers agreed as follows:

- The Ministers renewed their wish for a Common African External Policy position on negotiations between Members States of the African Union and European Union Member States;
- The documents relating to non-binding Draft Guidelines and binding Draft Guidelines concerning negotiations between States Members of the African Union and European Union Member States, were not adopted;
- The Ministers set up a Panel of Experts composed of Experts from Member States, the African Union Commission, RECs and concerned African Institutions whose terms of reference are to consider the aforementioned draft texts and propose new simplified draft texts;

It was agreed that the first meeting of the above Panel of Experts will be held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, at a date to be set by the African Union Commission.

3- Declaration on Civil Aviation Security

The Ministers also adopted a Declaration on Civil Aviation Security in Africa aimed at enhancing the control system of acts of unlawful interference in Africa.

This Declaration supplements the Resolution on Civil Aviation Security in Africa adopted in Libreville in May 2006 by the African Ministers responsible for Air Transport. These two legal instruments will assist Member States in complying effectively with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS).

4- Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision

The Ministers further recommended that the African Union Commission should make the necessary arrangements to finalize and submit to Member States for approval:

- The harmonization of competition common rules in the field of air transport in Africa;
- The Dispute Settlement Mechanism;
- The assessment of the implementation status of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
- The study on the constraints to the implementation of Yamoussoukro Decision.

5- Plan of Action

After adopting the Plan of Action of Addis Ababa, the Ministers agreed to re-assert the relevance of their Plan of Action adopted in Libreville in May 2006. Furthermore, they recommended that the African Union Commission should proceed with the implementation of the Plan of Action of Libreville and conduct its evaluation.

At the end of their deliberations, the Ministers commended the spirit of responsibility, frankness and the cordial atmosphere which prevailed throughout the Conference.

Done in Addis Ababa, on 11 May 2007

The Conference

EX.CL/350 (XI)
Annex II

**RESOLUTION ON THE ENTRUSTING OF THE FUNCTIONS OF
THE EXECUTING AGENCY OF THE YAMOISSOUKRO
DECISION TO THE AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION
COMMISSION (AFCAC)**

AFRICAN UNION

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THIRD AFRICAN UNION
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT
7 – 11 MAY 2007
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

AU/EXP/AT/Res. (III)

**RESOLUTION ON THE ENTRUSTING OF THE FUNCTIONS
OF THE EXECUTING AGENCY OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO
DECISION TO THE AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION
COMMISSION (AFCAC)**

**ADDIS ABABA RESOLUTION ON THE CREATION OF
THE EXECUTING AGENCY OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION**

WE, African Ministers responsible for Air Transport, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 10 to 11 May 2007, on the occasion of our Third Conference organized by the African Union;

MINDFUL OF the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in Lomé, Togo, on 11 July 2000;

MINDFUL OF the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community signed in Abuja, Nigeria, on 3 June 1991;

MINDFUL OF the Decision relating to the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration concerning the liberalisation of air transport markets in Africa of 14 November 1999, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU and signed in Lomé, Togo in July 2000 and signed by the then Chairman of the Assembly;

CONSIDERING the Resolution on the follow-up of the implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision adopted by the first African Union conference of Ministers responsible for air transport in Sun City, South Africa in May 2005;

CONSIDERING the Resolution on Aviation Safety adopted by the second African Union conference of Ministers responsible for air transport in Libreville, Gabon in May 2006;

RECALLING:

1. the importance of air transport in the economic development of the continent, particularly in the enhanced interaction among peoples and the wealth-creation resulting from the various forms of trade so facilitated;
2. the fundamental leadership, coordination, harmonization, facilitation and advocacy role of the African Union Commission in the building of economic infrastructure for Africa's development;
3. the need to strengthen the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), a specialized institution of the African Union at the forefront of the development of the air transport industry in Africa.
4. the Libreville Resolution on Aviation Safety in Africa adopted by the 2nd Conference of Ministers responsible for Air Transport held in Libreville, Gabon in May 2006 requesting the African Union Commission to take all necessary measures to, among others, establish the Executing Agency provided for in the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision.

NOTING the report of the study on the setting up of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision of 1999;

CONSCIOUS of the consensus reached during the Experts Session to extend the mandate of AFCAC to include the functions of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision;

DECIDE:

1. to entrust to AFCAC the functions of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
2. that the AU Commission explore the possibility of providing financial assistance to AFCAC;
3. to request AU Member States to continue to support AFCAC in order to enhance its capacity, including settling their contributions and contribution arrears, secondment of Experts, hosting of its meetings, etc.; and
4. that AU Member States and the AU Commission take all necessary actions to fulfil the legal, financial and organizational prerequisites required to ensure the immediate functioning of AFCAC as the Executing Agency as soon as possible.

Done and adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on this 11th day of May 2007

EX.CL/350 (XI)
Annex III

DECLARATION ON CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY IN AFRICA

AFRICAN UNION

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**THIRD AFRICAN UNION
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT
7 – 11 MAY 2007
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

AU/MIN/AT/Decl.1 (III)

**DECLARATION ON CIVIL AVIATION
SECURITY IN AFRICA**

DECLARATION ON CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY IN AFRICA

We, the African Ministers responsible for Air Transport, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 10 and 11 May 2007, on the occasion of the Third African Union Ministerial Conference to examine the requisite conditions for building an efficient and effective Aviation Security for Africa's Air Transport development;

Mindful of the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in Lomé, Togo, on 11 July;

Mindful of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community signed in Abuja, Nigeria, on the 3rd June 1991;

Mindful of the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism adopted in Algiers, Algeria on 14 July 1999 and entered into force on 6 December 2002.

Considering the Convention on International Civil Aviation signed at Chicago on 7 December 1944 and its Annex 17 on Aviation Security;

Bearing in mind the Declaration of the ICAO High Level Conference on Aviation Security held in Montreal in February 2002 and Instruments of International Law relating to Aviation Security

Bearing in mind further the need for Africa to fully and effectively provide response to ever changing threats as aviation security is concerned;

Recognizing the critical importance of aviation security and its role in building an efficient air transport industry and contribute positively in the political, economic and social integration of Africa;

Recognizing further the need for Africa to implement adequately its air transport policy capable of ensuring secure and harmonious functioning within the African multimodal transport system;

Considering the role of United Nations and other international and regional organizations on air transport in the field of Security;

Conscious of the importance of aviation security in the promotion and development of trade between Africa and other parts of the world and the need for strict compliance with Aviation Security Standards established by ICAO;

Conscious of the vulnerability of air transport in the world in general and in Africa in particular to unlawful acts against civil aviation;

Commending the various initiatives on aviation security taken by Regional Economic Communities, with the support of development partners;

Noting the impact of globalization and privatization on the aviation security in Africa;

Concerned by:

1. The low level of cooperation among African administrations in the area of aviation security management ;
2. The weakness of national committees on aviation security which African States set up under the ICAO requirements;
3. The absence, in several African States, of an appropriate aviation security legislative framework commensurate with international requirements;
4. The inadequate of financial resources, equipment and training of manpower for aviation security;
5. The technical and operational difficulties facing some African civil aviation authorities, airports, airlines and air navigation services providers which do not complying with acceptable standards of aviation security;
6. The lack of effective implementation, compliance with and enforcement of the international aviation security related legal instruments and treaties and/or poorly maintained aviation security facilities and the absence of regular aviation security exercises at national level;
7. The limitation and prohibition in the carriage of dangerous goods by transit passengers from Africa, even when properly packaged and sealed, and its impact on the duty free businesses located in African airports;

Acknowledge:

1. The key role of coordination, harmonization, facilitation and advocacy of the African Union in setting up a strong aviation security policy framework for which each State bears the responsibility;
2. The need to establish and strengthen through strong cooperation the institutional coordination structures for the prevention of acts of unlawful interference against aircraft, airports, air navigation facilities and other aeronautical installations as well as for monitoring and evaluation of the progress achieved in that regard;

Reaffirm:

1. our determination to join our efforts towards the development of an efficient aviation security mechanism in response to the phenomenon of unlawful interference against civil aviation affecting human lives by upgrading security standards accordingly;
2. The need for creating global cooperation and consensus, amongst regulators, industry, service providers and other interested partners;

3. The need for setting up the long term focus on new and emerging threats to aviation security in Africa and world wide;
4. Our willingness to supplement the implementation of the Libreville Resolution on Aviation Safety in Africa by a framework on Aviation Security.

Undertake to:

1. Implement ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices and ratify international air law instruments concerning aviation security;
2. Incorporate in our national and regional sector programmes, aviation security as a matter of high priority;
3. Identify and give priority to training in the field of aviation security;
4. Harmonize African aviation security procedures to promote efficiency, good management of African aviation security systems;
5. Reactivate or strengthen the activities of the national aviation security committees and encourage the establishment of regional Aviation Security Committees with the aim of enhancing aviation security systems in all Member States of the African Union;
6. Promote and encourage appropriate structures and measures for the improvement of aviation security;
7. Promote and enhance the role of all stakeholders at the national level in aviation;
8. Provide adequate funding for aviation security at the national and/or regional levels;

Decide to:

1. Work together for realisation and implementation of the existing international legal instruments related to security in general and aviation security in particular;
2. Set up a coordinating mechanism at regional and continental levels to foster cooperation through harmonization of aviation security programmes among States;
3. Establish, as a matter of high priority, a framework at the national, regional and continental level for individual and joint exercises in the field of aviation security;
4. Incorporate aviation security into each State's programmes with focus on the prevention of new and emerging threats;

5. Include aviation security in projects related to sustainable air transport development in Africa;
6. Strengthen existing centres of excellence for aviation security training recognized by ICAO with a view to promoting innovation and professionalism in the field;
7. Increase the awareness of the general public on the importance of aviation security;

Invite the African Union Commission in partnership with States, specialised institutions and stakeholders to take appropriate measures to:

1. Elaborate a comprehensive coordination mechanism for aviation security for Member States ;
2. Ensure that aviation security is taken into account in the development of sustainable air transport in Africa;
3. Establish cooperation with ICAO for strengthening aviation security in Africa;
4. Negotiate with any third party on aviation security measures enabling the development of activities generating non aeronautical revenue in Africa;
5. Sensitize concerned States in expediting the ratification of the Protocol to the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 2 July 2004;

Make a solemn appeal to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the International Civil Aviation Organization, all the development partners in the transport sector and donors, to support activities related to strengthening aviation security in Africa ;

Urge Member States of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to strengthen intra-African and international cooperation in civil aviation.

Done and adopted in Addis Ababa, this 11th day of May 2007

EX.CL/350 (XI)
Annex IV

PLAN OF ACTION
2007 - 2010

AFRICAN UNION

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**THIRD AFRICAN UNION
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7 – 11 MAY 2007
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

AU/MIN/ PI.Ac. (III)

**PLAN OF ACTION
2007 – 2010**

PLAN OF ACTION - 2007 - 2010

INTRODUCTION

The present Plan of Action adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 11th May 2007 by Ministers responsible for air transport, during their third Conference organised by the African Union Commission, was elaborated for the period 2007 to 2010 and complements the one of Libreville whose implementation is ongoing.

The main purpose of this Plan of Action is to define activities that will enable the attainment of African Union objectives, within the framework of air transport development, currently plagued by numerous challenges linked to the exigencies of the industry, notably questions specific to security and safety.

This Plan of Action gives the main activities identified for the attainment of these objectives, as well as the elements of control, the lead bodies as well as the institutions involved.

Thanks to the proposals contained in this Plan, the lead bodies have a solid base to conduct the necessary discussions with different development partners likely to support Africa in its development efforts in air transport.

Within the context of achieving this Plan of Action, the role of the African Union will remain central at the continental level, in order to facilitate its implementation.

N°	OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS	SOURCES OF INDICATORS	LEAD INSTITUTION	STRUCTURES INVOLVED	PERIOD
1	Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision of 1999					
1.1	Operationalisation of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision	Resolution of legal, institutional and financial issues Launching of the Executing Agency	Operational documents elaborated Report of the Executing Agency	AUC	AFCAC, RECs, ECA, ADB, NEPAD, Member States	2007-2008
1.2	To put in place competition rules for the African air transport industry and a framework for dispute settlement	Finalizing the studies on harmonisation of competition rules and dispute settlement mechanism	Reports	AUC	RECs, Monitoring Body of the YD	2007-2008
1.3	To put at the disposal of Member States evaluation criteria for the implementation of the Decision	Elaboration of Guidelines on evaluation criteria for the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision	Documents	AUC	Monitoring Body of the YD, Member States	2007-2008
1.4	To evaluate the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision	Study on the constraints to the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision	Study Report	AUC	Monitoring Body, States	2007-2008
2	Common African Civil Aviation Policy					
2.1	To put in place a Common African position for negotiating air service agreements with European Union States	Organisation of a meeting of experts on a common African position in Brazzaville	Meeting Report	AUC	RECs, AFCAC, AFRAA, ECA, ADB, NEPAD Member States	2007
		Adoption and dissemination of the Common African Position	Report	AUC	RECs, AFCAC, AFRAA, ECA, ADB, NEPAD Member States	2007-2008
2.2	Development of	Cooperation	Report	CUA	RECs,	Permanent

N°	OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS	SOURCES OF INDICATORS	LEAD INSTITUTION	STRUCTURES INVOLVED	PERIOD
	sustainable transport in Africa	with all interested parties			AFCAC, AFRAA, Partners	
2.3	To put in place a comprehensive African civil aviation policy	Drafting of the common civil aviation policy Workshops	Report	AUC	Member States, RECs, AFCAC, AFRAA, and other African stakeholders	2008
3	Strengthening civil aviation security and safety in Africa					
3.1	To put in place a coordination mechanism	Elaboration of the coordination mechanism for strengthening of civil aviation security and safety	Report	AUC	States, RECs, AFCAC, AFRAA	2010
3.2	To negotiate with third parties concerned, the development of non aeronautic sources of income	Negotiation with the European Union for transit of tax free articles coming from Africa	Report	AUC	RECs, AFCAC, AFRAA	2010
3.3	To ratify the international legal instruments dealing with security	Sensitisation of concerned states for membership	Report	States	AUC, RECs, AFCAC	2010
3.4	To improve the search and rescue operation services in Africa	Organisation of training and rehearsals on search and rescue in Africa	Report	AUC	RECs, AFCAC, States, AFRAA, Partners	2008
4	Strengthening inter African and international cooperation					
4.1	To increase the number of development partners (financial and technical)	Strengthening of international cooperation	Reports, Protocols, etc.	AUC	CER, ICAO, ATAG, etc.	2007-2010

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