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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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**REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF
TRANSPORT (CAMT) ON THE REGULATORY TEXTS OF
THE 1999 YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION ON THE
LIBERALISATION OF AIR TRANSPORT
MARKETS IN AFRICA**

INTRODUCTION

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Bureau of the African Union (AU) Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT) was held on the 19th December 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. The meeting was preceded by a preparatory session of Senior Officials on the 18th December 2019. The main objective of the Meeting of the Bureau was to consider and adopt the Regulatory and Institutional Texts of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa as requested by the Declaration of the Third Session of the AU Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT) which took place in Malabo in April 2014.

2. The current Bureau of CAMT is composed as follows:

Chairman	:	Equatorial Guinea (Central Africa)
1 st Vice-Chairman	:	Sudan (East Africa)
2 nd Vice-Chairman	:	Guinea (West Africa)
3 rd Vice-Chairman	:	Namibia (Southern Africa)
Rapporteur	:	Tunisia (North Africa)

3. All members of the Bureau were effectively represented at the meeting with the exception of Namibia, the Third Vice-Chairman.

4. The Third CAMT Session had suspended the consideration of the Regulatory and Institutional Texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision which was on its agenda due to concerns raised that their validation process had not been adequately undertaken. In that regard, the Ministers included in their Declaration, a request to the Commission to convene a meeting of air transport experts to complete the validation of the documents. In view of the urgency of the documents to the ongoing liberalisation of African air transport markets, the Ministers decided to mandate their Bureau to consider and adopt the documents on behalf of their conference.

5. The Report of the Third CAMT Session including the Ministers' Declaration was subsequently endorsed by the Executive Council Decision **EX.CL/Dec.826(XXV)** during its Ordinary Session in June 2014.

6. It would also be recalled that the Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council adopted **Decision EX.CL/Dec.821 (XXV)** on implementation of the African Agenda 2063 which requested the Commission to, among others, explore and propose concrete actions for the unification of the African air space within the framework of the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision.

7. To that end, the Commission, in collaboration with the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), African Airlines Association (AFRAA) and RECs, prepared and is implementing a road map of activities that are aimed at ensuring full implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision and establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market by 2017. This includes a draft Declaration of Heads of State and Government for submission to the January 2015 Summit.

8. It would be noted that the draft **Declaration on the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market** had also been considered and endorsed by the Committee of Ministers on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and Issues Arising from the Email from the Future.

MAIN AGENDA ITEMS

9. The substantive agenda items of the Bureau meeting were:
- i) Review of Implementation of Plans of Action of the Transport Sector and Sub-sectors:
 - Transport Sector
 - Air Transport
 - Maritime Transport
 - Railway Transport
 - Road Transport
 - ii) Review of Implementation of the transport sector priorities in the African Agenda 2063:
 - High Speed Train Initiative
 - Establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market
 - iii) Review and adoption of the regulatory and institutional documents of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets:
 - Competition Regulations
 - Dispute Settlement Mechanism
 - Consumer Protection Regulations
 - Regulatory and Enforcement Powers of the Executing Agency

OUTCOME

10. Following thorough deliberations, the Bureau took the following actions:
- i) Noted with appreciation implementation of the Plans of Action of the Transport Sector and Sub-sectors and provided specific guidance on resolving the major challenges and constraints;
 - ii) Commended the Commission for significant actions taken and planned in the implementation of the African Agenda 2063 flagship transport projects:
 - i. High Speed Train Initiative; and
 - ii. Establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market.
 - iii) Adopted the following Regulatory and Institutional documents of the Yamoussoukro Decision:
 - i. Competition Regulations;
 - ii. Dispute Settlement Mechanism;
 - iii. Consumer Protection Regulations; and
 - iv. Regulatory and Enforcement Powers of the Executing Agency.
 - iv) Endorsed the activities and road map as well as the draft Assembly Declaration on establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market.

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SC13702

**MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE
AU CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN
MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT (CAMT)
MALABO, EQUATORIAL GUINEA
18-19 DECEMBER 2014**

REPORT OF BUREAU

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Fourth Meeting of the Bureau of the African Union (AU) Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT) was held on the 19th December 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea under the chairmanship of His Excellency Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, Minister of Transport, Technology, Post and Telecommunication of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and Chairman of CAMT. The meeting was preceded by a preparatory session of Senior Officials on the 18th December 2014.

2. The main objective of the Fourth Meeting of the Bureau of the AU Conference of African Ministers of Transport was to consider and adopt the Regulatory and Institutional Texts of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa as requested by the Declaration of the Third Session of the AU Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT) which took place in Malabo in April 2014. It would be recalled that the Conference Report subsequently endorsed by the Executive Council Decision **EX.CL/Dec.826(XXV)**, requested the Commission to convene a meeting of Air Transport experts to finalise the validation of the Yamoussoukro Decision Regulatory and Institutional Texts and mandated the Bureau to consider and adopt them on behalf of the Ministerial Conference for the endorsement of the African Union organs during the January 2015 Summit.

3. Furthermore, the Bureau was expected to review the progress of implementation of the action plans of the transport sub-sectors as well as the major transport initiatives in the African Agenda 2063 and make its recommendations on the way forward.

4. The current Bureau of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport comprises of the following members:

- Chairman : Equatorial Guinea (Central Africa)
- 1st Vice-Chairman : Sudan (East Africa)
- 2nd Vice-Chairman : Guinea (West Africa)
- 3rd Vice-Chairman : Namibia (Southern Africa)
- Rapporteur : Tunisia (North Africa)

5. In attendance were the following Members of the Bureau:

- 1) H.E. Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, Minister of Transport, Technology, Posts and Telecommunication of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and Chairman of CAMT;
- 2) H.E. Dr. Elham MA IBRAHIM, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, Africa Union Commission (AUC), in charge of the Secretariat of the Bureau;
- 3) Mr. Maghrabib Elhag Yassin Ali, representing the Minister of Transport of the Republic of Sudan and First Vice-Chairman of CAMT;
- 4) H.E. Seikhou Amadou Tiany Doumbouya, Ambassador, representing the Minister of Transport of the Republic of Guinea and Second Vice-Chairman of CAMT; and
- 5) Mr. Sami Hammani, General-Secretary, representing the Minister of Transport of the Republic of Tunisia, the Rapporteur of CAMT.

6. Also participating in the meeting were the following invited guests:

- 1) Mr. Samuel Gaiya, Legal Adviser of the Africa Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);
- 2) Mr. David Fani, Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana

II. OPENING CEREMONY

7. At the opening ceremony, the Bureau was addressed by H.E. Dr. Elham M.A. IBRAHIM, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission (AUC) and H.E. Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, Minister of Transport, Technology, Post and Telecommunication of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and Chairman of CAMT who delivered the opening speech.

Address of H.E Dr. Elham M.A. IBRAHIM, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission (AUC)

8. The Commissioner thanked Hon. Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, the Minister of Transport, Technology, Posts and Telecommunication of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and Chairman of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT) for the great support provided to the AUC in the organisation of the Bureau meeting as well as for the generous hospitality extended to all the delegations. She also expressed her gratitude to the Ministers and senior officials representing and supporting Members of the Bureau for their attendance of the meeting

9. The Commissioner underscored the special importance of the Bureau meeting which was to complete consideration and adoption of the Regulatory and Institutional texts of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa. This was an agenda item of the Third Session of CAMT held in April 2014 in Malabo whose deliberations were not finalised due to inadequate validation process of the documents. She recalled the decision of the Ministers of Transport requesting the AUC to complete the validation process and mandating the Bureau of CAMT to consider and adopt the validated texts on behalf of the Conference.

10. Furthermore, the Commissioner informed the Bureau that finalisation of the Regulatory and Institutional texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision was a crucial step in the implementation of the AU Summit Decision on the African Agenda 2063 which required the AUC to work on proposals for the establishment of a single African aviation space. In that regard, she mentioned that the AUC intended to bring a concrete proposal to the next AU Summit in January 2015 for the establishment of a Single African Air transport Market. To that end, a Summit Declaration on the subject has been prepared and will be tabled for their consideration and improvement during the meeting.

11. Besides the underlined primary objective of the Bureau meeting, the Commissioner indicated that the Bureau will also address its usual agenda of evaluating the implementation of the Plans of Action of the transport modes. She concluded her remarks by appealing to the Bureau members continue supporting the AUC particularly by championing implementation of the continental transport sector initiatives in their countries and across the continent.

Opening Address of Hon. Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, Minister of Transport, Technology, Post and Telecommunication of Equatorial Guinea and Chairman CAMT

12. His Excellency Minister of Transport, Communication, Post and Technology welcomed all participants to the meeting which he considered important to Africa. He mentioned that its deliberations will have significant impact on the economic, social, political and cultural development of the continent.

13. He reminded members of the Bureau that they were all entrusted by the Third Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport to complete the work on matters of common interest to all African countries on the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision in addition to the customary review of implementation of transport Plans of action and related AU Decisions. This is another indication that Africa is united and the spirit of solidarity continues to prevail. He underscored that intra-African cooperation in transport is more than ever needed in order to support the current economic growth in the continent. Equatorial Guinea believes in the positive result that the South-South cooperation is yielding.

14. He indicated that the event has been made possible due to personal involvement of the President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, His Excellency, Teodoros OBIANG NGUEMA MBASOGO who is committed in the well-being of his citizens and the development of Africa. He mentioned that the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea has faith in prosperous, united, integrated and developed Africa.

15. The Minister concluded his address on that note and declared the Bureau meeting officially opened.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND WORK PROGRAMME

16. The draft Agenda and Work Programme were adopted without amendments and are attached hereby as *annex I*.

IV. PROCEEDINGS

17. The African Union Commission (AUC), as the Secretariat of the Bureau, made presentations on all the main agenda items followed by discussions, conclusions and decisions of the Bureau.

ITEM 1: CONSIDERATION OF THE PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSPORT PLANS OF ACTION

18. The AUC presented a comprehensive progress report on the implementation of Plans of Action on the cross-cutting (overall) activities of the transport sector including the transport component of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and of the transport sub-sectors.

OVERALL TRANSPORT SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

(i) Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA)

19. The AUC reported on its work on PIDA undertaken in collaboration with the Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Specialised Institutions and African and International partners. The report mentioned specific projects constituting the priority action plan of PIDA (PIDA-PAP) whose objectives are (i) construction of missing links in infrastructure and, (ii) improvement of operations along major transport corridors. Also mentioned was an ongoing process to establish strategic partnership with China for cooperation in the construction of infrastructure on regional and continental highway, railway and aviation networks. In that regard, it was indicated that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is expected to be signed between the AUC and the Government of China by early 2015.

(ii) Support to the Transport Sector in Africa

20. The AUC reported on the status of the above-mentioned project which was initiated this year with the objective of strengthening Africa's capacity for planning, coordination and management of regional and continental transport corridors. The project whose procurement stage is expected to be completed by the end of this year (2014) is financed by a 4 million Euros grant provided by the EU under the 10th EDF and is to be implemented within a period of three (3) years. It aims at enhancing efficient interconnectivity across regions by promoting safe trans-boundary transport corridors and harmonized transport policies. It has 4 main activities:

1. Support to the Department of Infrastructure and Energy of the AUC in the fields of transport policy harmonization and transport sector and services development;
2. Support to PIDA Priority Action Plan (PIDA-PAP) for the start-up of smart corridor activities;
3. Support to the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA) for implementing its strategic business plan; and
4. Editing and publishing of comprehensive transport sector guidelines.

TRANSPORT SUB-SECTORS ACTIVITIES

(i) Air Transport

a) Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa and establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market

21. The presentation of the AUC reported on the activities undertaken towards achieving full implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa and establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market by 2017. The Bureau was informed that a detailed presentation will be made on the subject under agenda item 3.

b) Support to Air Transport Sector and Satellite Services Application in Africa

22. The Bureau was then informed of the progress achieved in the implementation of the project on Support to Air Transport Sector and Satellite Services Application in Africa which is executed in collaboration with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) Secretariat, European Union (EU), RECs and Specialised Institutions. It

was indicated that the project which is within the context of the Africa-EU Partnership on Infrastructure has trained forty five (45) African professionals on Global Navigation Satellite Systems from thirteen (13) African States, ten (10) from the Joint Programme Office (JPO) and four (4) from the Regional Economic Communities.

23. The project has further acquired one (1) Platform/Laboratory for the ionospheric conditions calibration and is training two (2) African specialists on its operation. The assistance on aviation safety to States with significant safety concerns provided by the project has improved the continent's average safety record to above 50%. This is close to the 60% established in the Abuja Aviation Safety Targets endorsed by the AU Summit of January 2013 to be achieved at the end 2015. With regard to Aviation Security, eight (8) countries were assisted including two (2) vulnerable States and their national aviation security systems were enhanced to respond to the international civil aviation requirements.

24. Furthermore, the AUC held consultations with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Group at ICAO regarding implementation of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) between the two organisations. The two parties agreed on the need for the organization of Africa's aviation week together with an Africa-wide air transport conference whereby aviation stakeholders including African Governments and Industry, other concerned Stakeholders and International Partners may meet and exchange on new developments in African aviation and shape the way forward. The event would also serve as a fertile ground for exhibition of aeronautical products and air shows.

(ii) Maritime Transport

a) Revised African Maritime Transport Charter

25. The meeting was reminded again of the status of the Revised African Maritime Transport Charter which was adopted by the AU Summit in July 2010 but is not yet in full force due to lack of the required minimum of fifteen (15) instruments of ratification from the Member States. It was mentioned that at present seventeen (17) countries have signed the Charter and only seven (7) have ratified and deposited instruments of ratification with the Chairperson of the AUC.

b) Support to the Maritime Transport Sector in Africa

26. Also information was provided on implementation of the project on Support to the Maritime Transport Sector in Africa whose execution is jointly undertaken with the ACP Secretariat, RECs, specialised institutions and the EU. The project which is financed by a 5 million Euros grant provided by the European Union focuses on implementation of the key activities of the Revised African Maritime Transport Charter in the areas of maritime transport safety and security and facilitating port efficiency in West and Central Africa. Preparation of the project is at the Interim Phase and is expected to be completed in the first half of 2015 followed by execution of agreed activities.

(iii) Railway Transport

a) Vision 2040 for Railway Development in Africa

27. The Bureau was informed that dissemination of the Vision 2040 for Railway Development in Africa which was adopted by the Third Session of the Conference of African Ministers in April 2014 has not taken place due to lack of budgetary funds for the organisation of the planned workshops. It was underscored that the Vision is an essential strategic railway framework in the continent which recognises railways as the backbone of an effective and efficient transport network. Currently, African countries are increasingly taking action to revamp their once neglected railway networks. There would therefore be a need to coordinate these efforts in order to ensure a harmonious continental transport network.

b) High Speed Train Initiative (HSTI)

28. Information was provided regarding the recent initiative which is under development to facilitate the construction of a high speed train network in Africa as a flagship project of the African Agenda 2063. It was noted that the subject would be considered in detail under agenda item 2.

(iv) Road Transport

29. The AUC drew the attention of the Bureau to the key policy and regulatory documents for the road transport sector in Africa that were adopted during the Third Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport. These are:

- 1) The Inter-Governmental Agreement on Trans-African Highway Standards and Norms; and
- 2) The African Road Safety Charter.

30. It was reported that the AUC had planned to organise regional dissemination workshops to enable Member States to incorporate the provisions of the documents into their national frameworks and to facilitate their implementation. However, this activity could not be undertaken due to lack of budgetary resources. The AUC intends to explore other avenues of financial resources with a view to start implementation next year.

31. Regarding the African Road Safety Charter, the AU Summit has requested the AUC to first submit to the Ministerial Specialised Technical Committee (STC) on Justice and Legal Affairs for clearance before it is sent to the Member States for implementation. The Charter has already been submitted to the Office of the AUC Legal Counsel for inclusion in the agenda of the next session of the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs which is scheduled for early next year.

CONCLUSIONS

32. Finally, the following conclusions including the main challenges encountered in the implementation of the transport Plans of Action were outlined as follows:

- 1) Low rate of implementation of programmes due to mainly inadequate financial and human resources.
- 2) Significant achievements have been made despite the very limited resources at the disposal of the AUC.
- 3) Involvement of partners has been essential to implementation of important sector activities.

- 4) Lack of legal force of adopted policy, strategic and regulatory instruments is undermining efforts to mobilise resources for transport sector activities.
- 5) Low involvement of Regional Economic Communities, Specialised Institutions and member States in infrastructure activities of the AU also weakens implementation.

DECISIONS OF THE BUREAU

33. The Bureau noted the progress achieved in the implementation of the transport Plans of Action and, after lengthy discussions, decided to:

- 1) Request the AUC to give adequate priority to its transport activities through adequate capacity building measures, budgetary allocation as well as in mobilising the support of partners and stakeholders in order to raise the level implementation.
- 2) Call upon the RECs, specialised institutions and Member States to play more active roles and accomplish their share of responsibilities in the execution of continental transport activities.
- 3) Support the AUC efforts and carry out advocacy to ensure that Member States ratify and incorporate appropriate provisions of adopted continental policy, strategic and regulatory documents into national frameworks.

ITEM 2: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSPORT SECTOR PRIORITIES IN THE AFRICAN AGENDA 2063

1) High Speed Train Initiative

34. The AUC presented a detailed progress report on the development the continental Integrated High Speed Train Initiative (HSTI) which is aimed at providing Africa's transport network with a modern high speed railway component, able to develop fast smart and effective connections, around the various development centres supported by various economic and social policies. The HSTI is one of the flagship projects of the African Agenda 2063 as highlighted in the respective Decision **EX.CL/Dec.821 (XXV)** of June 2014.

35. Following the Executive Council Decision on the African Agenda 2063, the AUC executed the following activities:

- i) Establishment of a Project Core Team;
- ii) Preparation of an elaborate Concept Note of the HSTI;
- iii) Preparation of Africa's position; and
- iv) Initiating negotiations with the Chinese Government for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on, among others, the construction of the HST network

36. The Bureau was informed that in the year 2015, the AUC will increase the implementation pace of the project by carrying out the following key activities:

- i) Finalization and signing of the MOU between the AUC and China;
- ii) Drafting the implementation's legal framework;

- iii) Undertaking a High-level study on socio-economic, financial, environmental and technical parameters of the project; and
- iv) Assessment of existing local capacities in railway training in the various specialties of railway engineering and management.

Decision of the Bureau

37. The Bureau took note of the developments in the HSTI project and commended the AUC for the concrete actions taken and planned. The Bureau members appreciated the crucial importance of the initiative to Africa's integration and socio-economic development and agreed to join the AUC in promoting and facilitating adoption and implementation of the HSTI in the Member States.

2) Establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market

38. It was decided to place this subject under the agenda item 3 on implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets as the two subjects are closely related and complementary.

ITEM 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION ON THE LIBERALISATION OF AIR TRANSPORT MARKETS IN AFRICA AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE AFRICAN AIR TRANSPORT MARKET

1) Consideration and approval of the Regulatory and Institutional texts of Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa

39. The AUC presented the progress made in the validation of the Regulatory and Institutional texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision. Then summary introduction of each document and its contents was made. Finally, the attention of the members of the Bureau was drawn to the task of the Bureau of consideration and adoption of the texts as mandated by the Third Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport held in April 2014. The said documents are:

- i) Competition Regulations and their guidelines;
- ii) Dispute Settlement Mechanism and the Rulemaking Procedure;
- iii) Consumer Protection Regulations; and
- iv) Regulatory and Enforcement Powers of the Executing Agency.

40. The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) expressed satisfaction on the progress achieved in completing the elaboration of the regulatory texts for the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision. Furthermore, the representative of AFCAC highlighted the joint efforts made by key stakeholders in supporting the AUC activities on the establishment of a single African air transport market. In that regard, he concluded that this initiative will assist African airlines to better position themselves in the global air transport market.

Decision of the Bureau

41. The Bureau considered at length the work done by the AUC and continental air transport experts in the elaboration and validation of the Regulatory and Institutional texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision. It commended the meticulous work

done on the documents over a significant span of time. Also, the Bureau acknowledged that the Regulatory and Institutional framework of the Yamoussoukro Decision was long overdue and that it is a crucial input towards the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market.

42. Finally, the Bureau decided to adopt the documents and forward them to the AU Summit in January 2015 for endorsement as mandated by Decision EX.CL/Dec.826(XXV) on the Third Session of the AU Conference of African Ministers of Transport.

2) Establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market

43. In accordance with the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.821 (XXV) on the African Agenda 2063, the AUC introduced a progress report on activities undertaken for the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market by 2017. In that regard, the agreed (i) activities, (ii) road map and (iii) the proposed Summit Declaration on the Single African Air Transport Market were presented.

44. The agreed activities and road map are summarised as follows:

- i) Finalisation of regulatory and institutional texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision, October 2014 (**Done**);
- ii) Meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT), December 2014 (**Done**);
- iii) Mobilisation of airlines and states support, November 2014 onwards (**Initiated with airlines and ongoing**);
- iv) Draft Declaration of Heads of State and Government, January 2015 Summit (**Approved by the Ministerial Sub-committee on the Agenda 2063**);
- v) MOU with China on infrastructure development, by mid-2015 (**Ongoing**);
- vi) Guidelines for negotiation of air services agreements with third parties by end of 2015;
- vii) Capacity building measures for AUC and AFCAC, 2015 onwards.

Decision of the Bureau

45. The meeting considered with appreciation the activities implemented by the AUC including elaboration of the proposed activities, road map and draft Summit Declaration for the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market by 2017. The meeting further agreed to recommend to the upcoming Summit to endorse the activities undertaken and express its support to the initiative of the AUC Chairperson to call for the creation of the Single African Air Transport Market.

ITEM 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

46. Under this item, the Bureau took note for consideration for inclusion in the future Plans of Action:

- i) Creation of a smart transport committee.
- ii) Creation of an African global safety institution in the transport sector.
- iii) Launching of a study on connectivity and complementarity of ports and airports in Africa.

47. Also, the AUC drew the attention of the Bureau to the new framework of Specialised Technical Committees (STCs) whose implementation will commence in 2015 and which will, hence, replace the current Ministerial conferences. In that regard, members of the Bureau were informed that the Third Session of CAMT was the last Ministerial conference held solely on the Transport Sector and this meeting of the Bureau would, therefore, be the last of its kind. The next session will be held in the form of the **STC on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructures, Energy and Tourism**.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

48. The Bureau adopted, with amendments, its report as prepared by the Senior Officials and requested the AUC to finalise and submit it to all members of the Bureau and the AU Organs.

CLOSING

Closing Remarks of the AUC Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy

49. The AUC Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, H.E. Dr. Elham M.A. IBRAHIM expressed her deep gratitude to all the participants for their active involvement in the deliberations of the meeting which led to fruitful conclusions and decisions. She recognised the key role of the Chairman of the Bureau, H.E. Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, Minister of Transport, Technology, Post and Telecommunication of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for steering well the meeting. She also thanked the interpreters for their untiring facilitation which enabled the meeting to proceed with smooth comprehension among the various delegates. She apologised for any shortcomings observed and wished all participants Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Closing Address of the Chairman of the Bureau

50. The Chairman of the Bureau, H.E. Francisco Mba Olo BAHAMONDE, Minister of Transport, Technology, Post and Telecommunication of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea expressed his sincere gratitude to the AU Commissioner of Infrastructure and Energy and her team, the Member of the Government of Equatorial Guinea, the Representatives of the Bureau and all participants for attending the Fourth Meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport under his Chairmanship. He thanked the Senior Officials for the quality of the outcome reflected in the report of their meeting which preceded the Ministerial Session.

51. He outlined that the achievement of this Bureau meeting is a landmark for the development of transport infrastructure and services in Africa. In that regard, Equatorial Guinea will continue to share its experience in the sector with African States and Regional Economic Communities. With regard to the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision which was the main focus of the meeting, he underscored that the deliberations on the subject were crucial towards the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market and will lead to the increase of cooperation among African airlines at this time whereby the air transport demand is continuously growing. He called for the acceleration of ratification of the African

Maritime Transport Charter and the Constitution of the African Civil Aviation Commission in order to facilitate their implementation.

52. He expressed special appreciation to the Commissioner of the African Union Commission for the efforts made which led to the success of the meeting. He also expressed appreciation to national experts for their availability and valuable contribution to the work of the meeting. Finally, he wished all participants safe way back home, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

2015

Report of the conference of African ministers of transport (CAMT) on the regulatory texts of the 1999 Yamoussoukro decision on the liberalisation of air transport markets in Africa

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