

**REMARKS BY THE MINISTER OF STATE (TRANSPORT), HON. AGGREY BAGIIRE, AT THE OPENING OF THE VALIDATION WORKSHOP FOR CREATION OF THE EAST AFRICAN SATELLITE-BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM ON 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2018 AT SHERATON KAMPALA HOTEL.**

- **The Director EGNOS - Africa Joint Programme Office and your team,**
- **The Director Economic Development and Social Development,**
- **The Director General of Somalia CAA and Meteorological Authority**
- **Management of CAA Uganda,**
- **The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) Representative,**
- **Representative(s) from the International Civil Aviation Organisation Eastern and South African (ESAF) office,**
- **Officials from the East African Community, Inter-Government Authority on Development (IGAD) and Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) Secretariat,**
- **Distinguished guests,**
- **Ladies and gentlemen**

It gives me a great pleasure to join you at the opening of such an important Workshop that brings together regional and international stakeholders to brainstorm on the feasibility of establishing a Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS) module in East Africa.

I commend the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) - Africa Joint Programme Office in conjunction with other development partners from the East African Community (EAC), Inter-Government Authority on Development (IGAD) and Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) for considering Uganda as a worthy host for such an important gathering.

Moreover, this is not the first time that Uganda is having the honour to host such an event organized by EGNOS. Uganda has previously hosted an EGNOS event to discuss GNSS procedures at this same hotel.

Considering that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)'s Global Air Navigation Plans require States to implement the optimization of flight approach procedures with vertical guidance, it is pertinent that a combination of application of basic Global Navigation Satellite System

(GNSS), Barometric-Vertical Navigation Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) and Ground-Based Augmentation Systems is adopted.

The implementation of Satellite-Based Augmentation Systems in East Africa is expected to enhance the region's air transport system in a number of ways:

- It will increase runway capacity to handle more landings and departures. This is so because in contrast to Instrument Landing Systems (ILS), the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)-based approaches such as performance based navigation (PBN) do not require the definition and management of sensitive and critical areas resulting in potentially increased runway capacity.
- SBAS also increase aerodrome accessibility as Airports become more easily accessed from anywhere in the world.
- The new technology also leads to environmental benefits through reduced fuel burn as aircraft are able to take shorter routes due to the introduction of performance based navigation.
- SBAS further enhances safety through ensuring stabilized approach paths for flights.
- In addition, satellite-based system procedures do not require any physical infrastructure at the airport served, but simply having satellite-based elements such as reference stations, master stations and geostationary satellites in place. It is therefore, anticipated that this will come with reduction in capital investments and recurrent expenditure for landing instruments.
- The implementation of Satellite-Based Augmentation Systems in East Africa is also expected to enhance the region's social and economic development through its benefits going beyond aviation, to impact agriculture, maritime, rail and road transport applications.

This four-day meeting is therefore very important in shaping the future of the region's aviation industry.

The Ugandan Government is highly supportive of any initiatives that embrace the use of technology in enhancing service delivery. My Ministry will closely follow the technical deliberations that are going to take place over the next four days and we look forward to implementation of the positive resolutions as soon as possible.

I am glad to note that Uganda has already made steps towards adoption of the GNSS technology.

I urge the foreign delegates, especially those of you who are here for the first time to take time off your busy schedule to visit the various tourist attractions in the country before you return to your various countries.

It is now my pleasure and honour to declare the initial Validation Meeting for the East Africa Satellite-Based Augmentation Systems Module open.

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