

REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES, MR. RICHARD RUHESI ON BEHALF OF THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY MANAGING DIRECTOR AT THE OPENING OF THE VALIDATION WORKSHOP FOR THE EAST AFRICA SATELLITE-BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEM (SBAS) ON TUESDAY 17TH APRIL, 2018 AT SHERATON KAMPALA HOTEL.

- The Chief Guest, Hon. Aggrey Bagiire, Minister of State (Transport)
- The Director EGNOS - Africa Joint Programme Office and your team,
- The Director Economic Development and Social Development (IGAD)
- The Director General of Somalia CAA and Meteorological Authority
- Representative(s) from ICAO Eastern and South African (ESAF) office,
- Officials from the EAC and COMESA Secretariat,
- Distinguished guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of Civil Aviation Authority, I take this opportunity to welcome you all to Uganda and to this workshop that is aimed at conducting Initial Validation of the Preliminary Program Proposal (PPP) and presenting the outcomes of Benefits Analysis Study, all part of the decision making process for the creation of the Eastern Africa Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS) Module.

Hon. Minister, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) is Europe's regional satellite-based augmentation system that is used to improve the performance of global navigation satellite systems (GNSSs). These include GPS and Galileo.

As part of the Africa-EU long term strategic partnership to enhance safety in air transport, a project called Satellite navigation services for African Region (SAFIR) was started, with a global objective of building capacity within the African ACP countries. It focused on the future deployment of GNSS/EGNOS in the region. This culminated into creation of EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (JPO) and this is one of their activities.

CAA Uganda was a pioneer in the formation of the Africa program and indeed participated in the initial trainings under SAFIR. We have actively participated in most of the EGNOS activities in Kigali, Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, Dakar, among others.

Hon. Minister, I was one of the Ugandans privileged to be sponsored by the EU to train in this technology at the the prestigious International Center for theoretical Physics ICTP in Trieste, Italy, together with my colleagues from all over Africa who now manage the JPO.

A number of CAA technical staff were integrated into the EGNOS Africa Program and are now working as CNS experts in Dakar. (I am glad to see Agnes Kobusingye and Alex Wanda here today as part of the JPO team.)

In 2014, we hosted a similar workshop here in Kampala, dedicated to the discussion of EGNOS Version 3, during which important decisions were made with respect to Missions, Applications, particularly their Safety and Certification requirements for Sub Saharan Africa.

In line with the Global requirements in Aviation, CAA is progressively transitioning from conventional ground based navigation system to satellite based navigation system by embracing the next generation technologies. So far we have successfully implemented GNSS procedures (SIDs and STARs) for Entebbe International Airport and believe that the introduction of SBAS will go a long way in improving Air Navigation Services within the East African Region.

Hon. Minister, as we will be updated by this meeting, implementation of EGNOS modules in different African sub-regions is at different stages. In Tunisia for example, the EGNOS module is already operational. In South Africa, under a similar EU project, have reached demonstration stage. The project for Eastern Africa is at the initial Validation stage which is to be validated by this meeting. This is a great step towards the realization of EGNOS benefits for our region.

Although this project is focusing on enhancing Aviation, there are other beneficiaries of the satellite signal and its augmentation including other Transport modes like road, railway and Maritime, as we shall later on learn, through this workshop.

I therefore wish to implore all the delegates here this week, to actively participate in this workshop for maximum benefits. Please feel at home. The CAA team shall be available to assist you should you require any assistance during your stay in Uganda. If time allows, feel free to visit our ANS facilities at Entebbe.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.