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SAFIR News

BUILDING TOGETHER SATELLITE NAVIGATION COMPETENCES FOR AFRICA

Satellite navigation services for African Region Newsletter 1 - August 2013



EDITORIAL

We, **the SAFIR Project Implementation Team or PIT**, are particularly proud to present you this first Newsletter which aims at regularly providing **information on the Project**, its **activities** and its **achievements**.

As you may be aware, implementation phase of the project has started on the 15th of January 2013 for two years and have two main missions.

The first one is the set-up, staffing and operations of an EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (JPO) based in Dakar (Senegal) with a proper regional participation of the Sub-Saharan African countries. The personnel of the JPO would include ten staff members: five are recruited in 2013 with an entry on duty in October 2013 and five others in spring 2014. The missions of the future JPO will be to define the baseline and oversee the subsequent implementation phase for the specification and procurement of the development and deployment of GNSS/EGNOS in Africa.

The second mission is to organise a certain number of technical Working Sessions composed of regional stakeholders concerned with GNSS/EGNOS in sub-Saharan Africa, which will address all aspects of EGNOS-Africa system development and service provision in preparation of the infrastructure deployment phase, including EGNOS missions, applications, certification policy, industrial issues, maintenance, liability policy, governance structure . . .

This Newsletter includes information on the JPO Staff current recruitment, main results of the 1st Working session held in Dakar on 22-23-24 May 2013 and of the 1st meeting of our Programme Steering Committee held in Brussels on 18-19 April 2013. Finally, we give a brief overview of our upcoming events and activities.

We wish you a good reading and encourage you to let us know your remarks so as to improve this letter.

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PROGRAM STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

The 1st meeting of the Program Steering Committee (PSC) to the 10th EDF Intra-ACP Programme:

“Support to the Air Transport Sector and Satellite services applications in Africa” was held in Brussels on April 19th, 2013.

The role of the PSC is to offer policy advice and monitor the orientation of the programme activities in the pursuit of the overall programme objective for the four components of this programme: Aviation Safety, Aviation Security, SAFIR and TREGA respectively led by EASA, IATA, ASECNA and ICTP.

The following organisations attended: ACP Secretariat (chair), European Commission (DG DEVCO, DG MOVE, DG ENTR), African Union Commission, African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), Regional Economic Communities: ECOWAS, UEMOA, CEMAC, CEEAC, EAC, COMESA and as observers: ASECNA and Professor Refaat Chaabouni.



The inception report developed by the SAFIR Project Implementation Team (PIT) was presented, discussed in detail and finally adopted by the PSC. The main comment was about the need to improve the communication in particular towards the policy makers in highlighting the benefits of EGNOS for Africa.

The next steering committee is planned in November 2013 after the recruitment of the five first JPO staff.

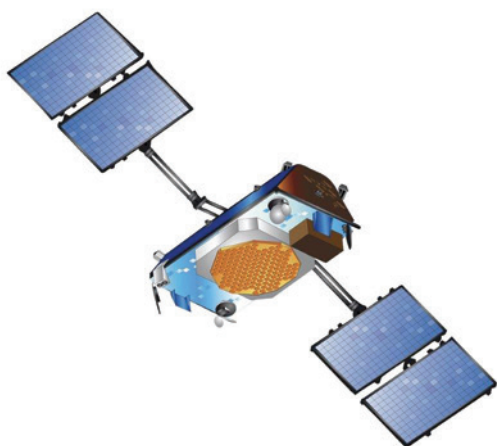
INFORMATION ON CURRENT JPO STAFF RECRUITMENT

Applications have already been received for the first five positions of the EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (JPO):

JPO Director, JPO Deputy Director, GNSS Programme Manager, Certification/Safety Expert and Legal/Economic Expert

The SAFIT PIT has selected 10 candidates who are attending the 1st training session in Trieste (Italy) delivered by the sister project TREGA led by UNESCO/ICTP (International Centre for Theoretical Physics). This training has started on 15 July 2013 for 3 weeks and addresses managerial issues.

At the conclusion of the training, a second evaluation process will take place in September 2013 in order to finalise the selection procedure of the first five positions of the JPO for an entry in duty on October 2013.



SAFIR WORKING SESSION #1

The first SAFIR Working Session took place in Dakar (Senegal) from the 22nd to the 24th of May 2013 and had two main objectives:

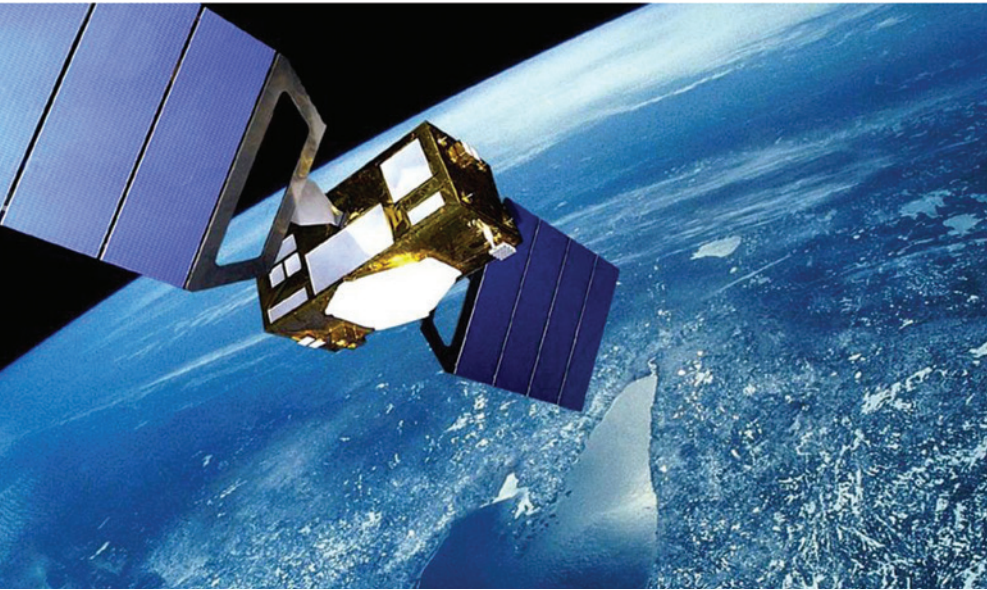
- To raise awareness on EGNOS initiatives in Africa;
- To get African Stakeholders' expectations on EGNOS missions and service provision.

Once the participants (more than 20) 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. This

Working Session highlighted the expectations to reach LPV200 level of performance (approach with vertical guidance with a decision height at 200ft), to ensure the link between current EGNOS regional initiatives and the future system, with coverage over the entire African region.

This first Working Session was a success thanks to the active involvement of all the participants, to their very valuable contributions in the discussions. It has enabled to share African expectations regarding EGNOS missions and service provision over Africa. This event highlights the willingness of Africa and Europe to co-operate together to promote satellite service applications over Africa.





UPCOMING EVENTS

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15 July - 6 August | 1st Training in Trieste (Italy) on managerial issues, delivered by the Sister Project TREGA (led by ICTP) for 10 selected candidates + 4 other trainees selected by TREGA. |
| September & October | Selection and entry in duty of the 5 first staff of the JPO:
JPO Director, JPO Deputy Director, GNSS Programme Manager, Certification/Safety Expert and Legal/Economic Expert. |
| November | Working Session n°2:
Governance, Liability & Certification in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia). |
| November | Programme Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:
Brussels. |
| December | Newsletter n°2:
Update on JPO staff recruitment, results of WS2 and PSC meeting. |