AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION

Department of Infrastructure and Energy P. O. Box: 3243 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Tel.: +251 11 552 6373/551 7700 Fax: +251 11 114 665081

E-mail: yanrouc@africa-union.org Website: www.au.int

Managing Directors Aboubakari Baba-Moussa Habiba Merji-Cheikh **Chief Editor** Christiane Yanrou

Layout and Design Fithamlak A., Senedou L., Chanda B, Henok A. AU Infrastructure Verssletter



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EDITORIAL

by Aboubakari BABA-MOUSSA

SHARING INFORMATION ON INFRASTRUCTURE IN AFRICA

Infrastructure is a crucial factor for sustainable social and economic growth, as well as acceleration of regional integration in Africa. Therefore, infrastructure development is a major pillar for promoting sustainable economic development in Africa.

Since independence, the African states have put enormous efforts by investing on infrastructures development and functioning services in the areas of transport, energy, telecommunications and water sectors.

Regional Economic Communities (RECs) also had been playing significant roles in implementation of the continental integration agenda, such as assure an interconnection of networks of infrastructure guaranteeing free movement of people, goods and services. Nevertheless, the needs for infrastructure development as well as modernization still remain with high importance. The African Union high-level authorities have made the said a priority.

The coordination and harmonization as well as the plea of various regional initiatives on the continent, are main challenges that African Union faces by putting in place the political process and programs of infrastructure development to promote the creation of a viable African economic market.

Facing this situation, the primary mandate of the African Union Department of Infrastructure and Energy is the development of Policies that would facilitate an integrated development and an interconnection of African infrastructures, by putting in place the political process, as well as continental programs, in collaboration with African stakeholders (RECs, NPCA, AfDB, UNECA...) and the support of development partners.

This month edition (Jan 2011) of the Newsletter dedicated to infrastructure and titled «AU Infrastructure Newsletter - Connecting Africa », clearly shows the will of the African Union Commission to have a



communication tool spreading knowledge on the state of African infrastructure.

"AU Infrastructure Newsletter – Connecting Africa" is hence your media to get to know about all aspects of infrastructure development. It is an open door to publish technical and scientific articles for all actors and partners for development such as NEPAD Planning and coordination Agency (NPCA), the Regional Economic Communities (REC),

the specialized Institutions of the African Union, the African Development Bank (ADB), the European Union, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and other specialized agencies of the United Nations, the Islamic Development Bank, the World bank, the German Development Cooperation, China, India and many others.

"AU Infrastructure Newsletter – Connecting Africa" will be published twice a year on the occasion of the African Union Summit and in two languages (English and French).

Taking stock of the year 2010 is an opportunity to issue the first edition of the "AU Infrastructure Newsletter – Connecting Africa" on the major achievements, the challenges and the perspectives of the Department for Infrastructure and Energies.

On behalf of Dr. Elham M. A. Ibrahim, Commissioner of the Department for Infrastructure and Energy, the entire staff of the Department and in my own name, we thank the Authorities and the entire staff of the African Union, all the African actors, and the Development Partners for their close cooperation and support.

We wish you all a happy new year 2011.

"AU Infrastructure Newsletter – Connecting Africa"

POUR UN PARTAGE DE L'INFORMATION EN INFRASTRUCTURE EN AFRIQUE

Les infrastructures constituent le socle de tout développement, en tant que facteurs essentiels de la croissance économique, de la cohésion sociale et de l'accélération de l'intégration régionale de l'Afrique. D'énormes efforts ont été consentis par les pays africains depuis leur accession à l'indépendance pour mettre en place des infrastructures et services viables dans les secteurs de transport, de l'énergie, des télécommunications, et de l'eau.

De même, dans le cadre de l'intégration régionale, les mêmes efforts ont été déployés par les Communautés Economiques Régionales pour assurer une interconnexion des réseaux d'infrastructures, afin de garantir une libre circulation des personnes, des biens et des services. Cependant, les besoins en développement et en modernisation des infrastructures restant encore très importants, les hautes autorités de l'Union Africaine en ont fait une priorité.

La Coordination et l'harmonisation, ainsi que le plaidoyer des différentes initiatives régionales sur l'ensemble du continent, constituent l'un des défis majeurs que la Commission de l'Union Afrique s'attelle à relever à travers la mise en place de politiques et programmes de développement des infrastructures, afin de promouvoir la création d'un marché économique africain viable.

Face à cette situation, le Département des Infrastructures et de l'Energie de la Commission de l'Union Africaine a la mission principale d'assurer le développement intégré et l'interconnexion des infrastructures en Afrique, à travers la mise en place des politiques et programmes continentaux, en collaboration avec toutes les parties prenantes africaines (CER, NPCA, BAD, UNECA...), avec l'appui des partenaires au développement.

Le lancement, en ce mois de janvier 2011, d'une édition dédiée aux infrastructures et dénommée «AU Infrastructure Newsletter-Connecting Africa», exprime la volonté de la Commission de l'Union Africaine de disposer d'un outil de communication pour mieux faire connaître la situation des infrastructures en Afrique.

«AU Infrastructure Newsletter - Connecting Africa » est désormais votre tribune pour aborder tous les aspects de la problématique de développement des infrastructures en Afrique. C'est le portail ouvert pour la publication des articles scientifiques et techniques, à la disposition des principaux acteurs et partenaires développement, notamment l'Agence Planification et de Coordination du Nepad (NPCA), les Communautés Economiques Régionales (CER), les Institutions Spécialisées de l'Union Africaine, la Banque Africaine de Développment (BAD), l'Union Européenne, la Commission Economique des Nations Unies pour l'Afrique (CEA) et autres agences spécialisées des Nations Unies, la Banque Islamique de Développement, la Banque Mondiale, la Coopération allemande, la Chine, l'Inde, pour ne citer que ceux-là. « AU Infrastructure Newsletter - Connecting Africa » sera publié deux fois l'an, à l'occasion des Sommets de l'Union Africaine, dans deux langues (français et anglais).

Au moment du bilan de l'année 2010 « AU Infrastructure Newsletter - Connecting Africa » est une opportunité pour faire paraître le premier numéro sur les principales réalisations, les défis et les perspectives du Département des infrastructures et de l'Energie.

Au nom de Dr Elham M. A Ibrahim, Commissaire en charge du Département des infrastructures et de l'énergie, de l'ensemble du personnel du Département et en mon nom propre, nous adressons nos remerciements aux Autorités et à l'ensemble du personnel de la Commission de l'Union Africaine, à tous les acteurs africains, et aux partenaires développements pour leur franche collaboration et leur appui.

Nous souhaitons nos meilleurs vœux de bonne et heureuse Année 2011 à tous.

AU Infrastructure Newsletter - Connecting Africa









DR ELHAM MAHMOUD AHMED IBRAHIM, A LADY IN CHARGE OF INFRASTRUCTURES IN AFRICA

Dr Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim, the Lady in charge of the Infrastructure and Energy Development in Africa, receives an Award from the NEPAD Transport Summit, in recognition of her dedicated efforts and determination.

The African Union, through its Department of Infrastructure and Energy and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), endorsed the second annual NEPAD Transport and Infrastructure Summit 2010 and Africa Expo witch took place from 13-15 October, 2010, at the Gallagher international convention centre in Midrand, north of Johannesburg, South Africa.

The African Union delegation was conducted by Dr Elham Ibrahim, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy and Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA).

This Summit was a major effort of the African Union to prioritise and promote infrastructure development across the continent. Let us recall the recent official launching of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), by the African Heads of State and Government, during the AU Summit held in Kampala, Uganda in July 2010.

During this second annual NEPAD Transport and Infrastructure Summit 2010 and Africa Expo, key issues involved in the development of Africa's transport infrastructure as a major factor in the continent's economic growth, have been identified for discussion and action.

For instance, road and rail construction in the cross-border trade corridors, as well as operation and ongoing maintenance are of major concern for the representatives of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs); The development of facilities at the main harbours affects everybody; The need for investment and the opportunities for investment are enormous and of interest of executives from the donor agencies and investment banks.

Beside Transport sector, other infrastructure sectors were also under the spotlight, including energy, water and ICT.

Manyparticipants such as Government leaders, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Policymakers and Experts from Africa and overseas, Top executives from the private sector, industry decision-makers, investment bankers and other stakeholders attended and discussed the continent's most pressing and longterm infrastructure needs.

Various others aspects like technologies, products and services, as well as business networking were available during the Summit.

The summit also included the NEPAD Transport Infrastructure Projects of Excellence Awards 2010, where projects are recognised and honoured for their contribution to the future of the continent in line with the objectives of NEPAD and the African Union.

On this occasion, H.E. Dr Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim has been selected for the Award, in recognition of her dedicated efforts and determination to ensure collaboration between the AUC and the NPCA to actualize the AU's vision of poverty eradication by promoting regional integration and trade through sustainable infrastructure development. Also in recognition of her relentless support for the NPCA's infrastructure programs and projects and their related activities, while promoting and ensuring a harmonious working relationship between the AUC Infrastructure & Energy Department and the NPCA's infrastructure Unit'.



IED ACHIEVMENTS IN 2010

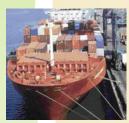
- I. TRANSPORT
- **II. ENERGY**
- III. ITC
- IV. CROSS-CUTTING PROJECT







I. TRANSPORT







Cotonou-Niamey-Ouagadougou Railway financed under the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership;

- 6. Technical Advocacy and Support Activities for the Gambia Bridge Project financed under the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership; and
- 7. Technical assistance on the operationalisation of the Executing Agency for the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa whose functions have been entrusted to the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);

Also, the African Maritime Transport Charter which was endorsed by the 15th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union as a treaty of the Union has already been submitted to States for signature and ratification in order to give it the necessary legal force for implementation. The Charter is the main policy and strategic framework for the development of maritime transport in the country. Member States are, therefore, kindly urged to speed up national processes for its signature and ratification.

Furthermore, a Declaration on Maritime Safety, Security and Protection of the Marine Environment was adopted in Durban alongside the Charter in order to strengthened the work of the Commission with key international partners in monitoring and developing strategies and actions to combat piracy and armed robbery at sea particularly in the Gulf of Aden

Through all these efforts, the Commission expects to strengthen the continental transport networks by ensuring expanded capacity as well as quality, efficiency, safety and security of related services.

In the transport and tourism sectors, the African

LUnion Commission continues to pursue a multifaceted agenda addressing policy, strategy, programmes and projects and advocacy of Africa's interests in the global economy. Most remarkably, the Commission focused its efforts in facilitating implementation of concrete/physical infrastructure projects by increasing preparatory studies for projects aimed at completing missing links in major transport corridors and expanding transport networks in the continent.

The corridors involved comprise about 29,450 kilometres of highways, kilometres 9640 of railways and 5 major seaports. Construction of two major bridges of regional importance is also in the programme as well as creation of a single air transport market targeting at ensuring direct interconnectivity of air services between African countries.

Some of the key transport projects implementation include the following:

- 1. Pre-feasibility study of the Dakar-N'djamena-Djibouti Transport Corridor financed by the NEPAD Project Preparation Fund (NEPAD-IPPF) and conducted by the consultancy firm, STUDI Group;
- 2. Pre-feasibility study of the Djibouti-Libreville transport corridor financed by the NEPAD IPPF and executed by the consultancy firm SNC-LAVALIN (Canada);
- 3. Pre-Feasibility Study for Western Section of Beira-Lobito Corridor (Trans-African Highway No. 9) financed under the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership through the Port Moresby Agreement Euro 10 million allocation to the AU;
- 4. Regional Transport Study of Trans-African Highway N°3 (At Kinshasa-Brazzaville Bridge) with Pre-Feasibility Road Study and Regional Ports Options financed under the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership;
- 5. Comprehensive Market Analysis and Options Study for Implementation, Operation and Financing of

1. MARITIME CHARTER

Background

 Revision and updating of the 1994 African Maritime Transport Charter (adopted in Tunisia in 1994 by the Assembly of the OAU) as decided by the AU Ministers responsible for Maritime Transport in Abuja in February 2007

- Revised African Maritime Transport Charter adopted by the 2nd AU Conference of Ministers responsible for Maritime Transport in Durban, South Africa from 12th to 16th October 2009
- The Charter is a comprehensive policy and strategic framework for enhanced cooperation among the Member States in the development of maritime transport in the continent

Achievement

 Revised Charter endorsed by the 5th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in July 2010 in Kampala

2. DAKAR-DJIBOUTI ET DJIBOUTI-LIBREVILLE CORRIDOR

The corridors involved comprise about 29,450 kilometres of highways, kilometres 9640 of railways and 5 major seaports. Construction of two major bridges of regional importance is also in the programme as well as creation of a single air transport market targeting at ensuring direct interconnectivity of air services between African countries.

Background

- Elaborate on the basis of economic development analysis a techno-economic project to assist continental and regional decision makers on how to develop the Djibouti - Libreville corridor
- Analyze the two modes independently and a combination of rail and road along the corridors between the 10 countries concerned
- As a pilot project on connecting Africa on an integration basis, having in mind that these projects are part of the Trans African Highways program
- Come up with clear bankable project in order to easily or better mobilize fund for implementation

Achievement

- Project design
- Data collection (in relation with concerned Member States)
- Definition of transport corridor and segments
- Inception reports submitted
- Interim reports are expected soon

3. DJIBOUTI-ETHIOPIA RAILWAY PROJECT

Objectives

 Joint project implemented by Ethiopia and Djibouti

- Known as Mekele-Haragebeya-Tadjourah Railway Project linking Ethiopia from Mekele to Tadjourah port in Djibouti
- Government of India has pledged financial support of U\$ 300 million for the project to be provided through the African Union for regional transport projects.

Achievements

- The Department of Infrastructure and Energy has successfully worked with Ethiopian and Djiboutian officials in a Technical Committee to align the project to the Dakar-N'djamena-Djibouti Transport Corridor Project as a pilot project in the development of the corridor
- Report has been submitted to the Deputy Chairperson

4. POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

- Endorsement of the African Maritime Transport Charter by the AU Assembly
- Adoption of the Declaration on Maritime Safety, Security and Environment
- Initiation of the elaboration of a African Common Civil Aviation Policy
- Production of Draft Competition Rules and Dispute Settlement Mechanism for a single air transport market in Africa
- Initiation of a study on Strategies for Financing of Railway Development in Africa
- Initiation of a project for the Harmonisation of Railway Training in Africa
- Initiation of a project for the establishment of a Coast Guard Network for Eastern and Southern Africa to combat piracy, armed robbery and other illegal activities at sea (with particular focus on the Gulf of Aden; off the coast of Somalia)

5. CONCRETE PROJECTS

- NEPAD-IPPF Financed Projects
 - o Pre-Feasibility Study of Missing Links on the Dakar-N'djamena-Djibouti Transport Corridor

- o Pre-Feasibility Study of Missing Links on the Djibouti-Libreville Transport Corridor
- EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership Projects (Port Moresby Agreement)
 - o Operationalisation of the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa.
 - o Continental Evaluation of the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision with a view to improving liberalisation of air transport markets in Africa

- o Feasibility Study of Lobito Corridor on Trans-African Highway No.9 (Beira-Lobito corridor).
- o Technical Advocacy and Support Activities for Gambia Bridge Project.
- O Comprehensive Market Analysis and Options Study for Implementation, Operation and Financing of Cotonou-Niamey-Ouagadougou-Abidjan Railway.
- o Regional Transport study of Trans-African Highway no. 3 in Central Africa with Prefeasibility Study of Selected Road Sections and Strategic Options Study for Regional Ports.





DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR IN AFRICA

Background:

No economic and social sustainable development is possible without essential factors such as liable and affordable energy services.

To that end, the African Union Commission applies itself to implement policies and programs for infrastructure development in order to promote creation of a viable African economic market in collaboration with all African stakeholders (RECs, NPCA, AfDB, UNECA...) and development partners.

The major challenges faced are the coordination and harmonization, as well as resource mobilization for different regional initiatives across the continent.

In order to successfully achieve its mission, AUC initiated many activities such as studies and field missions. In addition, a delegation of Infrastructure and Energy Department led by the Commissioner visited major stakeholders on energy issues (African Petroleum Producers Association, Inga site in DRC, Cabora-Bassa and Mphanda Nkuwa project sites in Mozambique, RECs (SADC and COMESA)) with the primary objectives of exchanging experiences and discussing ways of strengthening cooperation in matters of energy infrastructure.

In particular, the discussions were extended to the ways of improving programmatic relations between the AUC and RECs as well as between the RECs themselves. In that regard, the IED delegation highlighted the ongoing elaboration of Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA) as mechanisms being put in place to provide the most appropriate framework for improving working arrangements particularly between the AU, RECs and other stakeholders in the field of infrastructure.

The main activities are described below.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

I. AFRICA-EU ENERGY PARTNERSHIP

Background

The Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) is one of the 8 partnerships comprising the Africa-EU Joint Strategy, adopted in Lisbon in December 2007. It is a long-term framework for structured political dialogue and cooperation between Africa and the EU on energy issues of strategic importance, reflecting African and European needs. Through the Partnership, Africa and Europe will work together to develop a shared vision and common policy answers, and to stimulate specific actions that address the energy challenges of the 21st century.

The AEEP aims at mobilizing increased financial, technical and human resources in support of Africa's energy development, scaling up European and African investments in energy infrastructure and in energy interconnections within Africa and between Africa and the EU.

AEEP actions will address both institutional and capacity issues, as well as investments in infrastructure. AEEP actions include promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency, improving the management of energy resources. The main objectives of the AEEP are to improve energy access, energy security and to promote use of renewable energy as well as energy efficiency.

The Road Map and Action Plans of the AEEP are based on contributions from the African and EU Implementing Teams; from African and EU member states; on consultations with African stakeholders such as Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Power Pools and others and on consultations with the private sector and civil society. The governance of the AEEP is ensured through a Ministerial High Level Meeting (HLM) to be organized every two years and Joint Experts Group meetings.

The first HLM that was organized on 14 September 2011, in Vienna, Austria, took stock on the progress of the AEEP and agreed on Political Targets to be achieved by 2020.

Achievements

The above mentioned HLM adopted a Ministerial Declaration comprising the following targets by 2020:

- Bring access to modern energy to people additional;
- Double the capacity of cross border electricity interconnection double the use of natural gas in Africa as well as gas exports to Europe
- Build 10,000 MW in hydropower, 5,000 MW in wind energy; 500 MW solar energy; triple capacity of other renewable.
- During the HLM the Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme was launched.

Way Forward

After adoption of the Ministerial Declaration, European and African Implementation teams will take the necessary actions during the 2nd Action Plan 2011-2013 in order to implement (i) the 2020 Political Targets as well as its Monitoring and Evaluation system and (ii) the Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP).

II. SOLAR ENERGY STUDY

Background

The XIV Assembly of the AU Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa in February 2010 adopted Resolution N° Assembly/AU/Res.2 (XIV) on Solar Energy in the Sahara and requested the AU Commission to conduct a study on the solar energy. The Resolution requested all countries which have part of the Sahara within their territories to consider that the solar energy potential in this part of our Continent is a precious asset which should be managed for the benefit of our Continent. The AU Commission mandated the African Energy Commission (AFREC) to prepare a study on the solar energy and expanded the scope of the study to include the whole Africa since there are other areas suitable for harnessing solar energy for electricity generation. Therefore, the first phase of the study will focus on the Sahara Desert in North Africa, the second phase on the Southern Africa to exploit the resources of the Kalahari Desert andthe third phase of the study on the Eastern Africa for the exploitation of solar resources of the Ogden Desert.

Study Framework

The Africa Solar Study has been prepared on the basis of the following guidelines:

- It covers all countries within or adjacent to the Sahara Desert in an area about half of the African continent with a total of 24 countries.
- Due to socioeconomic, electricity sector and energy resources variations among these countries, the whole area was divided into three sub-regions, each includes countries sharing similar characteristics in the following manner:
 - o North Africa Sub-Region, including the following 6 countries: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sahrawi Republic and Tunisia,
 - o The Sahel Sub-Region, including the following 7 countries: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sudan, and West Africa Sub-Region, including the following 11 countries: Benin, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo.
- The study analyzed all aspects of solar and other

renewable electricity technologies and their social and environmental impacts. While the primary objective of the study is electricity generation using solar based power generators, the analysis was also characterized by a multi-faceted nature ranging from policy and planning to technology and solar resources assessment, regulatory and environmental issues, power sector reforms and creation of national, sub-regional and regional power markets, and economic analysis. The timeframe of the study analysis is from 2010 up to 2050.

• The study assumed that due to many factors such as low electrification rate, abundance of renewable energy resources and proven renewable-based electricity generating technologies and the need to address climate change that the three sub-regions will depend entirely for their future electricity supplies on these generating technologies namely: Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) plants, Photovoltaic (PV), Wind Power and Hydroelectric Power resources.

Findings

- The study estimated that the average cost of energy produced by CSP is expected to be in the range of 10 to 15 US¢/kWh by 2030 and reduced to 5 to 7 US¢/kWh by 2050 depending on the geographical location.
- The study projected that the total solar and other renewable electricity generation in the three subregions of North Africa, the Sahel and West Africa in 2030 would be equivalent to 89 percent of what the whole Africa has generated in 2010 and equivalent to more than 10 times by 2050.
- All of the countries analyzed in this study could achieve a full electrification status as early as 2035 (by 2040 as latest) through the proposed plan of disseminating Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) and other renewable energy technologies.
- The study showed that through reviewing the research and development activities conducted around the world, the technologies of CSP and other renewable are being rapidly improving and the costs are reduced at noticeable rates.
- The economic assessment conducted in this study indicated that electricity generation by CSP would be able to compete with conventional generation by the mid-2030.
- The countries of North Africa could achieve the

- vision of exporting electricity to Europe by 2030.
- The study proposed a wide scale deployment of CSP and other renewable energy technologies that could create a sustainable electricity market within Africa and neighboring regions.
- The reserves of fossil fuels in the region are declining to the extent that by 2040, oil and gas production will be in the verge of diminishing and the cost of electricity generation by fossil fuels will be expensive.
- The deployment of CSP and other renewable energy technologies in the region will create a localized industrial base, could utilize locally available raw materials for manufacturing of different components and create millions of job opportunities.
- The study estimated that the deployment of CSP and other renewable energy technologies will directly support the efforts of preserving the environment and contribute to abatement of millions of tons of CO2 and other greenhouse emissions.
- The deployment of CSP and other renewable energy technologies in the region will accelerate the integration of electric systems among the countries in the region and between Africa, Europe and the Middle East.
- The renewable energy based electricity generation in the region will enhance energy security and support the socio-economic development in the countries of the region.
- The scenarios proposed in this study for electricity generation by renewable energy could create a secure and sustainable source of income through electricity exportation and will contribute to the Gross National Product of the countries involved.
- African countries can achieve ownership in solar-based electricity generation and acquire independency in its design, construction, operation and maintenance.

Achievements

- A summary report of the study has been presented at the Experts' Meeting of the Energy Ministerial Conference in Maputo held on 1-5 November 2010
- A Validation workshop was organized in Algeria from 4-6 January 2011 to finalize the first phase of the study on the Sahara Desert
- Final summary report was submitted to AU Organs for their January 2011 Summit.

Way forward

Under the coordination of the AUC, AFREC will

lead all activities for the implementation of the recommendations and required activities suggested in this study in close collaboration with the Member States, regional and continental institutions in addition to international agencies. In this sense, the next steps in the realization of the study on solar energy would include the following tasks to be implemented in 2011:

- Segregate the Solar Energy Study into Country Reports; Formation of Technical Task Force in each of the three Sub-regions to elaborate
- development plan for each country;
- Organization of a series of technical training and capacity building in the area of CSP, PV and Wind technologies;
- Elaboration of the second and third phases of the study according to the availability of funds.

III. AFRICAN PETROLEUM FUND

Background

The Sixth General Assembly of the African Union (AU) held in Khartoum, adopted on January 24, 2006, Decision Assembly/AU/8(VI) Add.6, directing the AU Commission to convene a meeting of experts to consider the proposal for the establishment of a Fund within the African Union to mitigate the effects of the increase in oil prices on African Countries. The African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union (AU) agreed to jointly undertake studies on: (i) The Impact of High Oil Prices on African Economies; (ii) The Proposed Establishment of an African Petroleum Fund (APF): Operational Modalities; and (iii) A Prospective Analysis of the Oil and Gas Situation in Africa. One of the key results of the joint studies is the model on APF allocation criteria. The study also identified the major issues pertaining to the operational modalities of the Fund, including the various options for its administration; the proposed composition of the governing body of the Fund, the areas of intervention, the resources and the allocation formula.

The AU and the AfDB organized a workshop in December 2008 in Addis Ababa, aiming at validation of the joint studies results. This workshop concluded that there was not adequate technical chore to validate the studies and it recommended that at least two regional workshops are conducted for the validation. The first Regional Workshop for the validation of the studies was organized on 22-24 April 2009, in Cotonou, Benin for the western and northern regions of the continent. The second regional workshop was organized on 28-

29 September 2009 at the Headquarters of the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the central, eastern and southern regions. The outcomes and recommendations of the regional validation workshops were submitted to the AU Conference of Ministers in charge of Hydrocarbons (Oil & Gas) on 11 December 2009 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Declaration and the Road Map on the operationalization of the African Petroleum Fund adopted by this Ministerial Conference were endorsed by the Executive Council in January 2010. The Executive Council decided that the contributions from Member States and the oil companies doing business in Africa to the resources of the African Petroleum Fund shall be voluntary. This Decision was endorsed by the AU Summit held in July 2010 in Kampala, Uganda.

The Action Plan stresses the need to establish a Task Force Group (TFG) to advocate and conduct high level diplomacy in Africa and outside on the African Petroleum Fund and promote political and economical will to operationalize the APF initiative by contributing to the Fund and by proposing innovative ways to make the fund sustainable.

The TFG will also meet potential donors such as OPEC, the APF sister Petroleum Funds (e.g. Norwegian Petroleum Fund, OPEC Fund), the APPA Fund and others.

Achievement

 TFG establishment on-going and recruitment of an expert to up-date data and contribute to the training of experts from Member States.

Way Forward

- Resource mobilization;
- Operationalization of the African Petroleum Fund;
- Training the staff of the main organs and RECs on the simulation model on the impacts of high oil prices.

IV. AUC- REGIONAL GEOTHERMAL PROGRAMME

Background

The Ministers responsible for Energy from 11 Eastern Africa countries gave a mandate to the Department of Infrastructure and Energy (DIE) of the African Union Commission (AUC) in the Addis Ababa Declaration

on Geothermal Energy (among others) to coordinate and facilitate the "Regional Geothermal Programme" in the Eastern Africa countries. The countries include: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. This declaration was developed as an outcome of the "Decision Makers Workshop on Geothermal Energy" organized by the International Center for high Science and technology (ICS-UNIDO), Italy in collaboration with the Ethiopian government and other geothermal stakeholders in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, June 2009.

As a result, DIE took the initiative and implemented the following activities:

- (i) Organized Regional Geothermal Stakeholders Workshop (RGSW) in collaboration with Government of Kenya and German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR) in Nairobi, Kenya (March 2010) with a view to avoid duplication of efforts and create complementarities and synergy among various geothermal support programmes in the region;
- (ii) Developed Project Proposals on capacity building and small scale geothermal development (Ethiopia and Kenya) and submitted to the AUC Management and various donors for financial and technical support;
- Organized Regional Geothermal Training (111)Workshop on Policy Development Harmonization collaboration in with Government of Rwanda in Kigali, Rwanda (December 2010) with a view to develop clear and coherent legal and institutional framework to attract private investors to the geothermal sector;
- (iv) Created awareness and sensitized about the regional geothermal programme through publishing and distribution of geothermal report, development of website and participation and contribution to various regional and international geothermal conferences e.g. (a) World Geothermal Congress (Bali, Indonesia April 2010), (b) East Africa Power Industry 2010 (Nairobi, Kenya, September 2010) (c) Third African Rift Geothermal Conference (Djibouti, November 2010) (d) Geothermal Seminar for the Africa Development Bank (Reykjavik Iceland, January 2011)

Discussion held with the German Development Bank (KfW) on the possibility of AUC hosting the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Fund (GRMF) for the Eastern Africa countries initiated by the German Ministry for Economic cooperation and Development (BMZ). The objective of GRMF is to overcome the challenges and mitigate the risk to develop geothermal resources in Eastern Africa countries by providing grants. The Fund's vision is to support all Eastern Africa countries. However, initially the fund is a pilot focussing on Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda due to availability of the fund. The initial size of the "Fund" is approximately €50m. KfW will provide grant funding up to Euro 20M. The EU-Africa Infrastructure trust fund has proposed co-financing up to Euro 30 M.

Achievements

- Adopted Road Map and Action Plan to accelerate development of geothermal energy resource in the region as outcome of the RGSW
- Published geothermal report on status, strategy, gaps and support programmes in Eastern Africa countries and distributed to various international and regional stakeholders
- Developed AU- Regional Geothermal Programme website for regional networking and dissemination of updated geothermal data and information. The link to the website is: http://www.africa-union.org/aurgp.htm.
- About 40 people from 10 Eastern Africa countries (Comoros, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia) were trained and awarded certificate for their participation and successful completion of the training on policy development and harmonization.
- Compendium of training materials, power point presentation and Recommendation on the way forward developed as outcome of the RGTW
- Awareness created and Partnership developed with various geothermal development partners and institutions
- Reached to agreement with the German Ministry for Economic cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the German Development Bank (KfW) to host a 50 Million Euro Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility (GRMF) in AUC;

Way Forward

- Continuous implementation of the action plan and recommendation on the way forward developed as outcome of the RGSW and RGTW during March and December 2010 respectively.
- Acquire a number of Risk Mitigation fund to accelerate development of geothermal the region.
- Establishment of Regional Geothermal Coordination Unit
- Management and administration of the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility

V. CEMA (CONFERENCE OF ENERGY MINISTERS FOR AFRICA)

Background

In order to strengthen the coordination mechanism of the energy sector at continental level it appeared necessary to establish, under the auspices of the African Union Commission, a central and sole continental organ for coordination, harmonization and high level decision making in the energy sector. The setting-up of a continental coordination organ of energy sector policies and programmes was also recommended by various meetings and conferences held since 2004.

Achievements

The AU Conference of the Ministers Responsible for Energy was held in Maputo, Mozambique on the 5th November 2010. Under the auspices of this Ministerial

Conference were also held from 1 to 2 November 2010 the first All-Africa Energy Week (AAEW) and the Pan-African Energy Investment Forum (PAIF) which focused respectively on "Energy Infrastructure and Services in the Context of Climate Changes" and on "Promotion of Investment for Infrastructure development in Africa".

The Conference adopted a Ministerial Declaration stating, among others, the decisions to:

- Establish, under the auspices of the African Union Commission, the Conference of Energy Ministers for Africa (CEMA) as a central continental coordination organ for energy policies, and assume all the functions of all the African Ministerial Conferences and Forums in charge of Energy in Africa;
- Adopt the All Africa Energy Week as a framework for assessing the progress achieved in the area of regional energy infrastructure development and services, consensus building on emerging issues, and high level coordination of all the energy sector players and stakeholders.

The Conference adopted also two Resolutions on Solar Energy Study and on the All-Africa Energy Week.

Way Forward

- Adoption and Implementation of the rules and regulations of the CEMA
- Operationalization of CEMA.



III. ICT



DEVELOPMENT POLICISES AND REGULATIONS IN THE FIELDS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ ICT AND POSTAL SECTOR IN AFRICA

Background:

The proposed projects are in line with the decisions of the three last sessions of the Conference of the African Ministers in charge of Communications and Information Technologies (CIT) namely 2008 Cairo that adopted among others the Reference Framework for the Harmonization of Telecommunications/ICT Policies and Regulations and the Action Plan for the Development of the Postal Sector in African, Oliver Tambo Johannesburg 2009 and 2010 Abuja and the Addis Ababa Assembly Declaration on ICT calling for (i) the establishment of appropriate institutional arrangements and mechanisms to interconnect ICT backbones, (ii) the continuation and the intensification the harmonization of Telecommunications/ ICT policies and regulations and the actions for the development of the postal sector, (iii) the implementation of DotAfrica, African Space Agency (ASA) and e-Post projects, (iv) the harmonization and efficient management of radio frequency. Therefore, the projects aim at ensuring (i) the provision of the relevant strategies and guidelines, the implementation of concrete projects and (iii) the coordination of various initiatives in order to contribute to the integration of the continent.

1. Study on the implementation of the African Space Agency

- Completion of the Prefeasibility study
- Launch of the feasibility Study
- 2. Study and adoption of the technical, legal and financial feasibility studies on DotAfrica
- Establishment of the African experts Task force
- Lunch of the study on the RFP and the follow up of the activities related to the application to ICANN
- 3. Implementation of the Pan African e-Network for Tele-education and Tele-medicine
- 47 African countries have joined the project (signed the MoU to participate in the project)
- The network is fully operational in 42 countries
- Many online Medical consultations have been carried out
- Many African students are attending different degrees (Bachelor, Master, etc)

- The study on the Institutional transfer of the management of the network after the technical assistance provided by India is completed
- The Study of the Business plan to ensure the perennity of the network is completed
- 4. Harmonization of Policies and regulations in the field of Telecoms/ICT in Africa and Coordination of African and International activities (ITU, ATU, WB, ECEA, NEPAD PCA, AfDB, etc) related to the development of policies, regulations and programs in the field of Telecoms/ICT
- Elaboration of background paper on the base of the West Africa experience and analysis of best practice in collaboration with the Harmonization of ICT Policy in Sub Saharan Africa (HIPSSA) project
- Comparative study of the existing regional policy, legal and regulatory framework realized with the HIPSSA project
- AUC is now a member of the ITU three sectors
- 5. Elaboration of guidelines on continental and regional cost effective GSM Roaming
- The launch of the feasibility study

- 6. Study on the creation of regional/continental mobile SimCard
- The launch of the feasibility study
- 7. Coordination of activities related to the pilot project of the e-Post project
- Prefeasibility study completed, in collaboration with ATU and PAPU
- Implementation of a Pilot project in progress
- 8. Follow up, coordinate and implement the Connect Africa Goals
- 9. Study on the Development of Postal sector
- Launch of the studies on the Postal electronic payments and the Financial inclusion
- Agreement with the Universal postal union (UPU) to coordinate activities in the field of the African Postal sector development.
- MoU with the World Savings Banks Institute (WSBI) for the development of the African postal Financial services
- 10. Organization of the third African Union's Communications and Information Technologies Ministerial Conference (CITMC-3)
- Abuja declaration

RARITMER'S SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF THE SECOND PAN AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATION SATELLITE



Abidjan, August 16, 2010- The Director General/CEO of the Regional African Satellite Communications Organization (RASCOM) has the pleasure to announce the successful launch of the second Pan African telecommunication satellite, the RQ1R satellite, which event took place on 4 August 2010 from the Ariane 5 launch site in Kourou/ French Guyana.

The launch of RQ1R, which went according to plan, was attended by African Ministers, RASCOM Signatories and Board Members. The

Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Dr. Hamidoun TOURE, graced the occasion by his presence.

Presently the satellite is undergoing the Launch and Early Orbit Phase (LEOP) operations which are expected to be completed in a day or two following which the In-Orbit Tests (IOT) will be conducted and which are expected to be completed by 5th September 2010. At the conclusion of the IOT, RQ1R satellite will be collocated with RQ1 satellite at 2.9°E to ensure a seamless transfer of services from RQ1 to RQ1R.

W. CROSSIECTS



1. PROGRAMME FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (PIDA)

Background

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) is an initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) in collaboration with all Regional Economic Communities (RECs). It covers 4 sectors including Energy, Transport, Information & Communication Technology and Water (Transboundary), and will be implemented in two major steps: study step and implementing steps of the results of the study.

The main objective of PIDA is to maximize efforts and use of resources and to enable African stakeholders to speak with one voice on the basis of a common agenda and common vision for infrastructure development.

The specific objectives of the PIDA are to enable African decision-makers to:

- Establish a strategic framework for the development of regional and continental infrastructure based on a development vision, strategic objectives and sector policies;
- Establish an infrastructure development programme articulated around priorities and phases; and

• Prepare an implementation strategy and process including, in particular, a priority action plan.

Thus, a number of studies are being conducted with the aim of providing African decision-makers with analytical and decision-making tools for the formulation of policies, priority infrastructure development programmes and related implementation strategies and processes.

The outcomes of the PIDA study phase are:

- Continental Sector Policies;
- Regional and Continental Infrastructure Programs and Projects;
- Priority action plans;
- Funding measures and monitoring and evaluation processes.

Achievements as of end of Year 2010:

- Building consensus on one African Agenda for Infrastructure (elaboration of the concept)
- Setting up the PIDA Governance structure;
- Setting up the Project Management Team;
- Selection of the Panel of Experts;
- Mobilization of financing with support of AfDB;
- Management of the procurement process;
- Signature of contract with the selected



Consortium of Firms; and commencement of sectors studies assignment on 20 May 2010;

- Kick-Off Workshop (Addis Ababa, July 2010)
- Official launching (XV th AU Summit, Kampala);
- Adoption of a Methodological brief of the establishment of the outlook for the future (Johannesburg 30 September 2010);

2. INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (IAIDA)

Background

- Establish an institutional structure to support the implementation of PIDA and to serve as a backbone for the implementation of any AU infrastructure program,
- Create an integrated and enabling management environment capable of enhancing the capacity of African Union and its institutions to streamline all national, regional and continental efforts in infrastructure programme into tangible achievements

Added Value

To establish an enabling environment for infrastructure development by bringing the following solutions:

- Consensual and Streamlined decision making processes from countries to RECs and from RECS to AUC
- Clear Roles and Responsibilities of AU Institutions
- Speedy and efficient implementation of PIDA and future African infrastructure projects
- Improvements in programmes coordination and coherence and enhanced capacity at continental, regional and national level
- A Streamlined technical cooperation and financing strategy
- Shared platforms, more efficient organs that will reduce transaction costs.

Achievment

- The AUC has performed:
 - o Situation Analysis and Mapping of all institutions intervening in the Infrastructure Sectors, proposed
 - o Modeling report and elaborated IAIDA design. A decision has been taken in Kampala, 16th AU Summit to operationalize the IAIDA process
 - o Resource mobilized from German cooperation (1million for preparation and 2 millions for operationalisation phase
 - o Consultation meetings (RECs, Keys partners; NPCA, Regional Banks)

IAIDA project model will be Submitted to AU Summit in July 2011 for adoption.



MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES

- Conference of energy Ministers in Africa (CEMA)
- Third Conference of African Ministers in Charge of Communication and Information Technologies (CITMC)



- **☞** AU 1ST CONFERENCE OF ENERGY MINISTERS OF AFRICA (*CEMA*)
- **☞ ALL-AFRICA ENERGY WEEK** 2010 (*AAEW*);
- PAN-AFRICAN INVESTMENT FORUM (*PAIF*)

1 - 5 November 2010, Maputo, Mozambi<mark>que</mark>

THEMES: "Energy Infrastructure and Services in the Context of Climatic Changes"

"Promotion of Investment for

"Promotion of Investment for Infrastructure Development in Africa"

The African Union (AU) Conference of the Ministers Responsible for Energy was held in Maputo, Mozambique on the 5th November 2010. The Ministerial Session was preceded by a preparatory meeting of Experts which took place from 2 to 4 November 2010 at the same venue. Under the auspices of this Ministerial Conference were also held from 1 to 2 November 2010 the first All-Africa Energy Week (AAEW) and the Pan-African Energy Investment Forum (PAIF).

The objectives of the Ministerial Conference were, among others, to adopt the mandate and functioning modalities of the Conference of Energy Ministers for Africa (CEMA) that will now streamline all other existing energy ministerial fora and to adopt a number of recommendations related to continental policies, major programmes and projects in the energy sector.

The AAEW and the PAIF focusing respectively on "Energy Infrastructure and Services in the Context of Climate Changes" and on "Promotion of Investment for Infrastructure development in Africa" were jointly organized with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and included an Exhibition from 1st to 5th November 2010. The opening ceremony of the two events and exhibition was held under the patronage of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mozambique, H.E. Aires Bonifacio Baptista ALI.

Participants from 28 Member States attended the conference including ten Ministers, two Deputy Ministers, and three Secretary General.

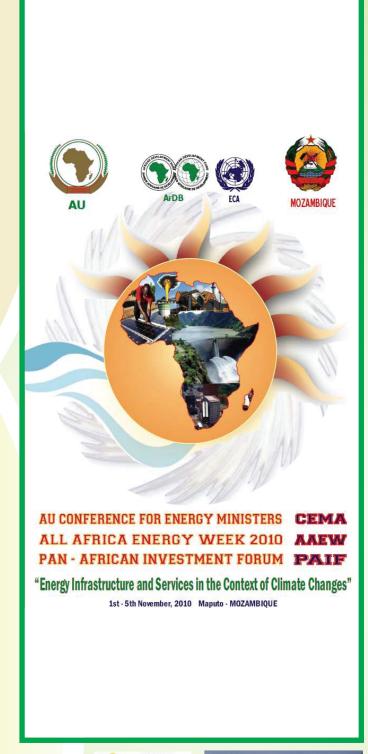
Also in attendance were the representatives of the following continental and international organizations, as well as development partners: African Energy Commission (AFREC), the Regional Power Pools (CAPP, EAPP, and SAPP), African Petroleum Producers Association (APPA), APPA Fund, UPDEA, AFUR, AFSEC, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), African Development Bank (AfDB), Regional Economic Communities (ECCAS, COMESA, and UEMOA), EU, South Korea, UNIDO, WB, UN-Habitat, UNEP, UNDP, and IEA.

The Opening Ceremony of the Ministerial Session was graced by the presence of the President of Republic of Mozambique, H. E. Armando Emilio GUEBUZA. The Vice Minister of Ministry of Knowledge and Economy of Republic of Korea, H.E Mr. Park Young-

Joon, attended the ceremony as Guest of honor.

Main Outcomes of the Conference:

- The Conference adopted a Ministerial Declaration stating, among others, the decisions to:
 - O Establish, under the auspices of the African Union Commission, the Conference of African Ministers in charge of Energy (CEMA) as a central continental coordination organ for energy policies, for which the AUC will serve as the Secretariat, and assume all the functions of all the African Ministerial Conferences and Forums in charge of Energy in Africa until AFREC is fully operational;
 - o Endorse the Second Plan of Action of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership and the Africa-EU Programme of Cooperation in the field of renewable energies;
 - o Adopt the All Africa Energy Week as a framework for assessing the progress achieved in the area of regional energy infrastructure development and services, consensus building on emerging issues, and high level coordination of all the energy sector players and stakeholders.
- The Conference adopted also two Resolutions on Solar Energy Study and on the All-Africa Energy Week.
- The Conference requested the AUC to pursue and finalize the studies on development of the solar energy potential of the Sahara Desert and extend the studies to cover other parts of the African Continent in collaboration with all countries.
- The Conference requested also the AfDB to promote the regular holding of the All Africa Energy Week by providing the necessary technical and financial support, in collaboration with all members of this organ's Secretariat.





CITMC



THIRD CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES,

03 - 07 August 2010, Abuja, NIGERIA

The 3rd Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference for Ministers in charge of Communication and Information Technologies (CITMC-3) was held from 6 to 7 August 2010, in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria. The experts' meeting held from 3 to 5 of August 2010 preceded the Ministerial Conference. The Ministers deliberated on the report of the experts session and other agenda items.

More than 23 AU Member States took part of the meeting as well representatives of RECs, African and International Organizations and Agencies, Representatives from the private sector and other organizations and associations.

The opening ceremony of the Ministerial meeting was presided by H.E. NAMADI SAMBO, Vice president of the Federal republic of Nigeria. Welcome Statements by H.E. Mr. Labaran Maku, Minister of State, Information and Communications, Federal Republic of Nigeria, and by H.E. Prof. Dora Nkem Akunyili, Minister of Information and Communications, Federal Republic of Nigeria were delivered in the presence of Dr. Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union

Commission and Mr. Brahima Sanou, Head of the ITU Regional Office for Africa, who delivered the message of the ITU Secretary General, Dr. Hamadoun Touré.

Member states committed themselves among others to WORK TOGETHER to contribute to the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), notably its ICT component, to PROMOTE the transition from Analog to Digital terrestrial Broadcasting and to INCLUDE the Postal sector in the national and regional strategies for the development of the ICT universal access.

Member states requested the African Union commission to Set up the structure and modalities for the Implementation of the DotAfrica project and to Conduct a feasibility study for the establishment of the African Space Agency taking into account existing initiatives, and develop an African Space Policy in cooperation with the RECs, UNECA and ITU (for more details, please refer to the Abuja Declaration).

The Republic of Sudan was elected as chairman of the AU CIT ministerial conference for 2 years and will host the next session in Khartoum in 2012.

PARTNERSHIP / COOPERATION





SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION AND THE AFRICAN AIRLINES ASSOCIATION

The African Union Commission (AUC), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation with the African Airlines Association (AFRAA), on January 25th, 2011, at the African Union Headquarters, in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed on behalf of the African Union Commission by H.E. Dr. Elham IBRAHIM, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy and on behalf of the African Airlines Association by Dr. Elijah Chingosho, Secretary General of AFRAA.

This signature is the result of special and essential relationship that has developed over the years and, for which, both sides have committed to ensuring its furtherance and effectiveness.

AFRAA is the main framework for the advocacy of African airlines at the international arena. Given the international character of air transport, African airlines can manage the current environment in air transport policy and regulations through AFRAA.

The role of AFRAA in ensuring compliance of African airlines with worldwide best practices on matters concerning safety, security and protection of the environment and for providing the necessary guidance and

technical support on those matters is paramount.

H.E. Dr. Elham IBRAHIM, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy recognized AFRAA as the Pan African organization of the African airlines with which the African Union Commission shall establish a special cooperation mechanism on advisory basis as stipulated in the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community on matters related to airlines industry.

Dr. Elijah Chingosho, Secretary General of AFRAA, after thanking the African Union Commission for the new partnership, identified the following issues as of priority and need the full support of the African Union Commission for the sustainable development of African air transport: Aviation Safety, environment, facilitating airline financing at competitive rates as well as the acceleration of the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision through African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), as the Executing Agency, by encouraging the industry initiative called Club of the Ready and Willing (CREW) States.

Both parties reiterated the need to work closely for the realisation of the goal of safe, reliable and efficient air transport services in Africa and beyond.

VISITS









South African Diplomats trainees have a particular interest in infrastructure development in Africa

On Tuesday 23 November, 2010, a group of Diplomats from the Republic of South Africa visited the Department of Infrastructure and Energy (DIE) of the African Union Commission and held a working session in the Department's meeting room.

The Diplomates who are waiting to be deployed to their new duty stations were willing to better understand how the Department operates. Most of them have an academic background in the field of infrastructure.

The visit took place in three parts.

The first part allowed the members of the delegation to present themselves and to express their expectations from the visit for their future diplomatic carrier.

In the second part, Mr. Aboubakari Baba Moussa, Director of the Department, welcomed the delegation and presented the vision and the prospects of the Department which is comprised of the Transport, Energy and Telecommunications divisions. Then followed detailed presentations of the main activities by sector and cross-cutting projects notably the Programme for Infrastructure development in Africa (PIDA) and the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa(IAIDA), as well as the related budget.

Finally, the third part was devoted to an interactive exchange on the challenges Africa is facing in terms of electrification, transport networks, the cost and quality of telecommunications services. This gave the Department the opportunity to present the achievements by sector with concrete examples to highlight the importance of postal services that are often not well understood and to stress the importance of technical and financial support from actors and partners conducting studies and implementation of development projects.

At the end of the visit the representative of South African Embassy, Dr. N. Monakhisi, who was heading the delegation, expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome extended to the delegation and the quality of the presentations and the documents made available.

On his part, the Director of the Department thanked the delegation for the visit as well as for their interest in infrastructure sector. He further paid tribute to H.E President Jacob ZUMA for his commitment in promoting the development of Infrastructure in Africa in general and PIDA in particular.

The exchanges of information between both parties were fruitful and they agreed to encourage such initiative.

CAPACITY BUILDING

WORKSHOP



R e g i o n a l Geothermal Training Workshop on Policy development and Harmonization, Kigali, Rwanda, 7-11 December 2010

The Department of Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission (AUC) successfully conducted a "Five-day" Regional Geothermal Training Workshop (RGTW) on Policy Development and Harmonization in collaboration with the Government of Rwanda, in Kigali, Rwanda from 7-11 December 2010. The workshop focused on the twelve Eastern Africa Countries: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

AUC organized this workshop in the context of implementation of the "Road Map" and "Action Plan" developed as an outcome of the Regional Geothermal Stakeholders Workshop (RGSW) organized by the AUC in March 2010. The RGSW was organized in collaboration with the government of Kenya and German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR).

The overall objective of this Regional Geothermal training workshop (RGTW) was to address an important challenge and a barrier to, development of geothermal resources in East Africa Region (EAR) namely: inadequate policy, institutional and regulatory



framework to attract private investments in the region. The workshop also aimed at developing appropriate, clear and coherent legal and institutional framework to attract private investors to the geothermal sector.







RGTW's specific objectives included: (i) delineate the needs and expectations of private sector; (ii) create awareness about, and transfer knowledge, on the subject; (iii) present the progress report on Regional Geothermal program for the Eastern African Countries, (iv) acquire inputs and guidance from representatives of Eastern Africa countries to further implement the adopted road map/action plan (March 2010).

Among the 120 participants there were representatives of experts from 10 Eastern Africa Countries (except Burundi and Eritrea); the African Union Commission (AUC), Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) Rwanda, institutions with geothermal support programmes (Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR), Icelandic International Development Agency (ICEIDA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID)), investment and development partners (German Development Bank (KfW) World Bank (WB), African Development Bank (AfDB), French Development Agency (AfD), European Union (EU), International Finance

Corporation (IFC)) and the private sector (Reykjavik Forward" was developed. Geothermal).

The RGTW covered various activities in particular Certificate Award distribution and a One-day Field Excursion to the Gisenyi geothermal prospect in Rwanda.

As a RGTW outcome, the participants affirmed the need for "Regional Geothermal Programme and developed a Recommendation on the "Way Forward" for accelerated geothermal energy resource development in the Eastern Africa countries. Specific Outputs of the workshop are: (i) Needs and expectations of private sector were delineated; (ii) Awareness was created and Knowledge was transferred on the subject; (iii) About 40 representatives from ten Eastern Africa countries were trained and awarded certificate for their active participation and successful completion of the training; (iv) Compendium of presentations and training materials were prepared; and (v) Recommendation on the "Way

Further, some of the issues in the recommendation adopted by RGTW were (i) Governments of the Eastern Africa countries should take the lead in the implementation process; and (ii) the African Union Commission should assist in defining the framework and policy guidelines, as well as assuring coherence in the programmes.

The Way Forward: (i) Proposing a Policy Guideline to governments to maintain coherence between the policies and legislations of the different countries; (ii) identifying focal points and establish Regional Working Group to develop detailed action plan; (iii) encourage active participation and involvement of RECs.

IED UPCOMING MAIN EVENTS

- Second Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT), Luanda, Angola, 24th – 28th October 2011
- JEG Meeting for Africa-EU Energy partnership, 16-17 March, Port Louis, **Mauritius**
- High Level Meeting of the Implementation of the APF, 5-6 October, Addis Ababa, **Ethiopia**
- Steering Committee Meeting for the validation of the study Dot Africa.
- Meeting of the Steering Committee and the Assembly of the parties of E-Pan-African Project, March 2011, New Delhi India.

IED RETREAT





THE AU INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY DEPARTMENT (IED) STARTED THE YEAR 2011 IN A DYNAMIC WAY

The Department of Infrastructure and Energy of the African Union Commission concluded a two day gathering called "Retreat for Efficiency". The retreat took place from 14 to 15 January 2011, in Kuriftu, Debrezeit, Ethiopia.

Steered by H.E. Dr. Elham M. A. Ibrahim, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, and oversighted by Mr. Aboubakari Baba Moussa, Director of IED, all the professional and support staff of the IED, as well as representatives of other departments (Administration, Finance, Strategic Planning and Conference Services), centred their attention on 3 main subjects: (i) Evaluation of the implementation of the past year 2010; (ii) Review of internal administrative procedures and functions of the Department and, finally, (iii) Information sharing and plan of action for the current year 2011.

The first part was allocated to the presentation of activities conducted during year 2010 with emphasis was made on 4 areas: Achievement, Challenges, Collaboration and lessons.

The second part related to internal administrative procedures, provided the opportunity to discuss with Representatives of other African Union Departments regarding interdepartmental collaboration in order to understand better the

procedures and furthermore, express the specific needs of IED.

The last part opened the way for the IED activities to be conducted this current year 2011, while highlighting the budget and external collaborations.

All these happened in a relaxed atmosphere, to the point that all participants recommended to continue such gatherings and admitted that it was really relevant for the harmony of the Department. The Representatives of the other AUC Department also expressed their appreciation of this approach and their willingness to continue the close relationship for the well being of our continental organisation.

It is notable that the retreat was graciously sponsored by the GIZ (German Agency for International Cooperation) former GTZ.

The expectations of the IE Department from the Retreat for efficiency were largely met to the extent that: (i) the formulation of an implementation strategy and an action plan for 2011 and (ii) the recommendations for building real team work and improving administrative culture and communication as well as an effective follow up mechanism were reached.



