

Professional Air Traffic Controllers Association in Burkina



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REPORT overhead OG!



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EDITORIAL

The Word of the President

Djerma Gosso



Dear Air Traffic Controllers!

Hello everyone! First of all I would like to thank and congratulate all of you for the successful 8th congress of the National ATC Association held on July 22nd 2011. As the president of the newly elected executive committee for the mandate 2011-2013, I am grateful to all of you for placing this high confidence in this team. The stakes are high, we pledge to work tirelessly and rely on your continuous support.

It is also worthwhile congratulating this innovative idea of sharing the reports of our activities through this newsletter ``Report overhead OG''. We are living an information age, and sharing our activities over this newsletter will provide a broader view of ATC's creativity and profession. All your ideas and articles about any subject are welcome. Our association is at crossroads and we will work hard to get there!

1) APCAB 8th Congress

The 8th Congress of The professional Air Traffic Controllers Association (APCAB) in Burkina took place on July 22nd 2011 in the meeting room of the Delegate for National Aeronautical Activities (DAAN). As a reminder a Congress is a meeting gathering all the members (active and non-active) to discuss the future of the association and elect the executive board. The subject for this year was topical and meaningful as the controllers were to conduct a reflexion on ``the role of the Air Traffic Controllers in the reformation of ASECNA``.

The meeting opened at 8 am in a conference room flooded by an impressive turnout of national officials, members and guests, all of them excited to attend this memorable occasion.

The outgoing president, Djerma Gosso, opened the row of speeches to address the traditional welcome, followed by the Representative of ASECNA in Burkina Faso, Louis Bakienon and the Director of the Civil Aviation who officially opened the ceremony.



The Representative of ASECNA and National Authorities



Air Navigation managers



Guests from the administrative department

The second part of the congress consisted in the retirement of the controllers to discuss topics as hot as the functioning of the association. Indeed, the ATCOs worked out their differences, put every opinion on equal footing to reach productive agreements on various issues. Then they split into two sub-groups to discuss the rules and regulations of the association on one side and the topic of the day on the other side. The major change in the regulations is related to the monthly fees and dues which have increased from 6000FCFA to 7000FCFA.



Controllers during the meeting

“The role of the ATCOs in the reformation of ASECNA”, debated by the second sub-group deserves emphasis. It is over 6 months from today that a drastic change in the management of ASECNA has occurred. The new management policy aims to achieve more efficiently the targeted missions of the Agency as stated in the articles 2, 10 and 12 of Dakar revised convention in 2010. Nowadays the air traffic is growing rapidly and the ICAO standards in terms of Air Navigation Services getting tougher. ASECNA, the jumbo jet

has turned to a new heading: focus on its primary missions. The reforms of the systems affect all the organs and are marked by a profound change in the organization structure and a new quality management policy. The Air Traffic Controllers play a critical role in providing Air Navigation Services and reaching a targeted level of safety and security.



Debate was welcome

During the reflection, the ATCOs have enthusiastically embraced this new policy and will support the Director General in this demanding project. They firmly believe that these reforms would lay the groundwork for a continuous improvement of the safety in the ASECNA region.

Therefore, they will work professionally to meet the requirements in all areas, encompassing the English language compliance and the work proficiency, as well as a novel approach based on a safety culture. The ATCOs are fully aware that they need to reach a threshold of excellence and self-awareness in a job leaving no margin of error.

In addition to this, they pin their hopes

on that policy to target some issues, all of which are beyond their control: there is an urging need for sorting out the staff shortage, implementing surveillance means (RADAR, ADS,CPDLC) in all the centers, focusing on the training by solving the problem of instructors shortage at EAMAC, and a promoting a collaborative attitude between Controllers and Managers, taking into account the ATCOs proposals, through their local association or their Federation (FACAA). The career ladder is also of paramount importance as the controller should be able to be trained and occupy a wide range of top positions in the Agency. Some incentives will increase the motivation and reduce the dropout rate within the workforce.



The sub group discussing the rules and regulations

After the lunch break, the ATCOs elected the new Executive Committee. It is worth noting that all the members of the outgoing board have been re-elected, which is indicative of the great achievement accomplished by this team.



The atmosphere was relax and friendly

President: Djerma Gosso
(Ouagadougou)

Vice President: Lassane Sore (Bobo-Dioulasso)

Secretary: Fulbert Bembamba
(Ouagadougou)

Deputy Secretary: Achille Zoubga
(Bobo-Dioulasso)

Secretary in charge of Organization and Information: Drissa YE
(Ouagadougou)

Treasurer: Djibril Traore

Deputy Treasurer: Armand Ouedraogo
(Bobo- Dioulasso).

After the closing speech, the controllers left the room, delighted for this successful congress. This event renewed the Controllers spirit to continue providing a better air navigation service in ASECNA. See you in 2013!



The outgoing president and treasurer were re-elected



APCAB was honoured by its meteorological...



Despite the shortage, the controllers of BOBO were well represented.



and maintenance counterparts!

2) SAY AGAIN!

APCAB is happy to welcome a new associate member: SENI RAOUL. This young fire fighter is a pilot as well at the local flying club. He is traveling soon to Miami to further his flying training. Let's drink for that. Cheers! Safe trip!

SAY AGAIN!

New ATC

Joanny Rouamba has received his official recruitment notification and started his ATC career on June 28, 2011. We wish you all the best in this extremely demanding profession!



New member Raoul Seni on the left