

Date: 06 July 2022

## *Press Release*



### **4<sup>th</sup> Regional Outreach Event on SBAS Implementation and Use in Africa**

**Kigali 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022:** In continuation of its efforts to increase awareness of the benefits of implementing the Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS) in Africa, the SatNav Africa Joint Program Office (JPO) in collaboration with the Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority (RCAA) has organised the 4<sup>th</sup> outreach event in Kigali Rwanda, destined to Aviation and non-aviation experts from Eastern African Region.

Themed “Satellite Navigation for the Eastern Africa Region: SBAS State of play and use in Aviation”, the hybrid outreach event has been attended by stakeholders drawn from the African Union Commission (AUC), Regional Economic Communities (RECs) including the EAC, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), the East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (EAC CASSOA) as well as various Air Navigation Service Providers including ASECNA, Collins Aerospace and European SBAS Service Provider ESSP.

At the opening of the three-day gathering, Director of JPO Mr Semou Diouf said, the workshop eyes at sensitizing stakeholders on the numerous benefits of SBAS for the aviation and non-aviation sectors thereby enhancing the acceptance and adoption of the technology in the Region.

Director-General of the Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority Mr. Silas Udahemuka expressed full support for Satellite Navigation implementation in the Region, highlighting its versatile uses. He highlighted the fact that the global aviation industry at all levels (manufacturers and operators and air navigation service providers) are currently at advanced stage in adopting



and integrating SBAS technology to take advantage of the SBAS benefits. Therefore Africa should not be left behind in that journey.

Acting Head of Transport and Mobility Division with the Infrastructure and Energy Department of AUC, Eric Ntagengerwa, highlighted that the African Union promotes a continental approach toward the implementation of SBAS, recalling the successful completion of the Study on the Cost-Benefit Analysis of the application of (SBAS) in Africa commissioned by the AUC whose results were presented to a wide range of stakeholders at a workshop held in Kigali end of May 2022.

The outcome of the workshop showcased that SBAS is gaining popularity and acceptance among african stakeholders whose application will enhance efficiency in various aviation as well as non aviation applications. According to Eric the outreach event is instrumental in bringing together concerned bodies and enhancing common understanding to hasten the development and adoption of vital governance and institutional frameworks for SBAS.

The Kigali outreach event shed light on the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) technology, aviation applications benefits including Performance Based Navigation plans, the status of different regional SBAS programmes and initiatives including a review of outcomes of the demonstrations undertaken by the Agency for Aerial Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA) which provided better visibility on the performance of SBAS in Africa. Other previous outreach events and field demonstrations had been conducted by ASECNA in 2021 in Lomé, Togo for the Aviation sector, in Douala Cameroon for Helicopters, and in Brazzaville Congo for precise positioning and alerting services.

The Outreach event came to a close with confidence that the eastern Africa region will take the necessary measures to take the implementation of SBAS in the Eastern African Region to the next step.

**Note to the Editor:**

**Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS)**

The Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) is a wide-area differential Global Navigation Satellite Signal (GNSS) augmentation system that uses several geostationary satellites to broadcast primary GNSS data that has been provided with ranging, integrity, and correction information by a network of SBAS ground stations covering vast areas which improves precision and lowers position errors to less than 1 meter.

In March 2017, the African Union (AU) Specialized Technical Committee on Transport Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructure Energy and Tourism (STC TTIIET) mandated the African Union Commission (AUC) to conduct a continental Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) Study and elaborate an implementation strategy for the Satellite Based Augmentation Systems (SBAS) project in Africa. The CBA study, whose supervision was delegated to the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) was started in 2021 and the results were presented during the Continental workshop on the SBAS CBA held from 30th – 31st May 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda.



The Satellite Navigation in Africa Support Programme III, a continuation of the 'European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) in Africa Support Programme', and a partnership between Africa and the EU, contributes to the development of satellite navigation in key sectors in Africa, with aviation being the entry point of the Programme. It aims at supporting the development of Satellite Based Augmentation Systems (SBAS) and the increased use and adoption of GNSS services.

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