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ECA/RCID/020/99

**REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF  
THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR  
THE CREATION OF A PAN-AFRICAN  
ASSOCIATION FOR PORT COOPERATION  
(PAPC)**

**Conakry, Guinea 12-13, April 1999**

**REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF  
THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE CREATION OF  
THE PAN-AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PORT COOPERATION (PAPC)**

**A. ORGANISATION OF THE MEETING**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ad-hoc Committee for the Creation of the Pan African Association for Port Cooperation (PAPC) was held in Conakry, Guinea, from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April 1999. The meeting was hosted by Port Autonome de Conakry, and was organised to coincide with the hosting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting of the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA), which was also hosted by the Port Autonome de Conakry, and was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April 1999.

The Ad-hoc Committee meeting was conducted in the meeting room of the Ministry of Transport and Public Works. It was preceded by a Consultative Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1999. The signed minutes of that meeting is attached as Annex I to this report. Based on the outcome of the Consultative and PMAWCA Council Meetings, a joint Declaration titled "Conakry Declaration for the Creation of the Pan-African Association for Port Co-operation" was drafted. It was a joint declaration by the second Ad-hoc Committee and the 23<sup>rd</sup> PMAWCA Council meeting, aimed at officially declaring the creation of PAPC. The text of the Declaration is Annex II to this report.

**B. PARTICIPATION**

The Ad-hoc Committee meeting was attended by representatives of PMAESA, PMAWCA and NAPMA. It was also attended by members of the Board of Directors of PMAWCA and Heads of Delegations of the PMAWCA Council meeting. The list of participants is attached as Annex III to this report.

**C. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

The Meeting was opened by Mr Aliou Diallo, in his capacity as the host to the Meeting, the President of PMAWCA, and also the spokesman for the three Associations as agreed during the Consultative meeting. Mr Diallo is the current Director of the Port Autonome de Conakry.

In his introductory statement, he welcomed the representatives of three Port Management Associations, and other participants and informed the meeting that the original venue was Casablanca, Morocco but the meeting was switched to Conakry

to take advantage of the 23<sup>rd</sup> PMAWCA Council meeting. He thanked the Chairman of PMAESA and the Secretary General for attending the meeting. He informed the Meeting that the Secretary General of NAPMA had already contributed to the deliberations of the Ad-hoc Committee meeting and travelled back to Casablanca to attend to unforeseen urgent commitments at the NAPMA Secretariat. He recalled the conclusions of the Addis Ababa meeting held on 14 July 1998 and emphasised that the objective of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ad-hoc Committee Meeting is to prepare the final text of PAPC Constitution. He thanked the PMAWCA Board of Directors and Heads of delegations for their positive response to his short notice invitation for participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ad-hoc Committee Meeting for the creation of the Pan-African Association for Port Cooperation.

The Chairman of PMAESA, Mr. S.M.E. Luhigo, first expressed his gratitude, on behalf of PMAESA members, and Tanzania Harbours Authority, to Port Autonome de Conakry for the successful hosting of the Meeting. He further congratulated the Government of the Republic of Guinea for the excellent arrangements made available to participants of the Meeting. He emphasised that since the three Associations have agreed to move forwards with the creation of PAPC, there should be no need for more preparatory meetings in future. He concluded his statement by thanking ECA for the efforts made in organising the meeting and expressed expectations that ECA will in future continue supporting the three Associations even after the launching of PAPC.

The Secretary General of PMAWCA, Mr F.G. Gauze, expressed his appreciation with progress made so far regarding the creation of PAPC. He underscored the importance of the Conakry Declaration and said that ECA together with the three Associations have to move towards the preparation of the Rules of Procedure. At this juncture, the Chairman, Mr Diallo, stressed the need for completion of the Rules of Procedure and informed the meeting that he would make a formal request to ECA, on behalf of the three Associations, for the preparation for the Rules of Procedure for PAPC. In this regard, he thanked the three Associations for appointing him their spokesman, and said he will do his best to live to the expectations entrusted upon him. He promised to ensure that PAPC is launched by the end of the year 1999. He appealed to the Presidents of the other two Associations to assist with PAPC meeting whenever he is unavailable. He further appealed to members of the Board of Directors and Heads of delegations of PMAWCA to act as Ambassadors in their areas for the dissemination of information regarding PAPC.

The Secretary General of PMAESA, Mr O. Hartmann, stressed the need for the three Associations to finalise the PAPC Constitution here in Conakry, based on comments already received from the three Associations and ECA.

While reading an opening statement on behalf of Mr. Y.K. Amoako, the Executive Secretary of ECA, the ECA representative extended greetings from the Executive Secretary and also from Mr Mbaye Diouf, Chief of Regional Cooperation and Integration Division, who apologised for not participating in the meeting because of unforeseen commitments. Mr Amoako paid tribute to the Minister of Transport and Public Works of the Republic of Guinea and Port Autonome de Guinea for hosting the meeting and also for the hospitality and support extended to all delegates. He stressed that the meeting should pay special attention to the finalisation of the Constitution, and the preparations necessary for participation of Africa in IAPH meeting scheduled for Kuala-Lumpur, Malaysia, 15-21 May 1999. He requested that the Conakry meeting should look into the problem of the location of the Headquarters for PAPC. Full text of the message is attached as Annex IV.

#### **D. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS**

##### **Election of Officials (Agenda item 2)**

The bureau was constituted as follows:

- ◆ Chairman: President of Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA)
- ◆ Rapporteur: Economic Commission for Africa

##### **Adoption of Agenda and the Programme of Work (Agenda item 3)**

The agenda of the meeting was adopted as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officials
3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work
4. Consideration of the draft constitution for the creation of PAPC
5. Date and venue for the third and final committee meeting
6. Any other business
7. Adoption of the report and closing of the meeting

The Work Programme was adopted without any alteration.

**Consideration of the draft Constitution for the creation of PAPC (Agenda item 4)**

The representative of ECA Secretariat presented to the Meeting the report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ad-hoc Committee Meeting and the Constitution (Annex I to the report). He also presented to the meeting minutes of the Consultative meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1999 in Conakry

In the discussion that followed, it was agreed that a Sub-Committee composed of the Secretary-Generals of the two Port Management Association and ECA would finalise the Draft Constitution taking into account comments received from PMAWCA, PMAESA, UAPNA and ECA.

The Sub-Committee met later in the day and finalized amendments to the constitution. The revised final text of the constitution is attached herewith as Annex V.

**Date and venue for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee meeting (Agenda item 5)**

The Meeting resolved that there will be an informal meeting of the Committee in Kuala-Lumpur in May 1999 as part of the IAPH meeting. It was also agreed that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ad-hoc Committee meeting will be held at a later date but before the end of 1999 in Casablanca, Morocco to launch the PAPC. It was resolved that ECA will consult with the three Associations on a suitable date for the third Ad-hoc Committee Meeting.

**Any other business (Agenda item 6)**

Under this agenda item, the issue of PAPC headquarters was raised by the Chairman and it was finally agreed that consultations on the subject should continue, therefore, the decision on the location on the headquarters will be made later.

The Chairman closed this agenda item by encouraging Secretary Generals to attend future Council Meetings of each sub-regional Associations.

**Adoption of the report and closing of the meeting (Agenda item 7)**

The closing ceremony of the Meeting was honoured by the participation of the Guinea Minister of Transport and Public Works who agreed, at the invitation of the Chairman, to address the closing session of the meeting.

In his address, the Minister expressed his appreciation for the honour given to the Republic of Guinea to host PAPC Meeting. He also expressed his happiness with the history made by declaring the creation of PAPC in Conakry (Conakry Declaration). On behalf of the President of Guinea, he congratulated participants to the Meeting for their courage in moving closer to the establishment of a continental Association and said that all African countries will be proud of that progress. He expressed his satisfaction with the efficiency under which the Committee had worked, and stressed that PAPC, when established, should form a basis for strengthening port co-operation and competitiveness in Africa.

He called upon ECA to redouble its efforts and continue to assist the three Associations and their members even after the final establishment of PAPC.

He concluded his statement by congratulating the Committee on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Guinea and wished all delegates a happy stay in Guinea and a safe journey back home at the end of the meeting.

The Meeting adopted its report and the revised Constitution as amended.