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- OPPORTUNITY AND EXPECTATIONS OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA WITH APPLICATION OF GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY
- BY
- Emmanuel KARIKURUBU
- Master of Sciences in Engineering
- Technical Advisor of Ministry of Transports, Posts and Telecommunications of BURUNDI
- (Address)

- DEPARTEMENT DES TRANSPORTS LACUSTRES
- B.P 2400 BUJUMBURA BURUNDI
- FAX: (+257) 223346, Phone :(+257) 241161 E- mail: <u>kariemmanuel@yahoo.fr</u>
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- Sub-Saharan Africa includes a group of poor countries where access to communication and information tools is still at the lowest level compared to others parts of the world where as progress in Telecommunication technology offers more and more possibilities to make up that situation.
- In fact, the low planning capacity of development policies and low purchasing power of the majority of the population in that region; do not favour investing in companies dealing with information services and communication.
- This situation is more worrying that it needed external initiatives to allow a number of African counties to have access, at a low cost, to information via internet. We mention here the" Leland Initiative" which from 1996 to 2000 has allowed connection to internet for twenty African countries by providing access, training and local development within the "Global Information Infrastructure " project. This was carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

- The demands of Globalisation, perceived through the current privatisation of economical systems nearly world wide, have brought political deciders and business operators in our countries to awareness of the importance of information and communication tools in order to achieve sustainable development.
- Currently, Sub-Saharan Africa offers an attractive environment to investors in the sector of Information and communication technology and records show clearly how much that sector can became the new key to way out of underdevelopment.

• II. OPPORTUNITY;

With the implementation of good governance norms in most of our countries and economical reforms established to guaranty the enhancement of regional organizations in place; the using in Sub-Sahara Africa of GNSS technology in the traffic management within transport networks (maritime, rail and road), will allow governments as well as business operators to master data in order to ensure every where and in every time the free circulation of goods and persons within this space.

- In general, the notion of free exchange and free movement of goods and persons constitutes the basic strategy to succeed the socio-economical integration of States or Regions in their efforts to come out of underdevelopment.
- Sub-Sahara Africa, like elsewhere, is under the process of grouping together into economical organizations (COMESA, SADC ,CDEAO, NEPAD etc). Those countries need to be equipped with means of communication and information likely to bring solution to problem that occurs or will occur soon in the functioning of control mechanisms and regulating of transport networks, on national level as well as regional.

- III. Expectations.
- Without extending to various domains of application of Global Navigation Satellite System technology, let's look briefly on the expectations from those countries with the introduction of that technology in the activities of goods and persons transport within or beyond that zone.
- On the side of Promoters
 - Wide distribution of detailed information on the application of GNSS technology.
 - Organizing training session on the use of GNSS technology;
 - Ensuring free access to certain frequencies for the sake of universal training and humanitarian causes;
 - Setting up an international regulation guarantying the quality of services by subsidizing some charges that limitate the number of potential users.
 - Facilitating Sub-Saharan Countries to put in place a regional committee on the application of GNSS into the current process of economical integration on of different countries.

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- Land Transportation
- 1- The use GNSS technology offers possibilities of guarantying the monitoring and control of movement of goods and persons on the international road network of the region.
- In fact, permanent of locating of transport assets will limitate fraud and theft of merchandises on the way.
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- 2- The efficiency of GNNS provide to states of the region the possibility of putting in place a common policy of action planning for the development of transport infrastructures(Currying out of construction of international road and rail networks);
- 3- The uses of GNSS will allow land locked countries to develop their vision in their policies of desenclavement (open up) by identifying sites and real causes of handicaps of commercial traffic from or towards those States.
- In conclusion, it would be better for this workshop to trace a way forward for quick applications of the GNSS in the lives of populations in developing countries and that the GNSS might not serve for commercial purposes only, but more ultimately be extended to humanitarian causes.
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- THANK YOU VERY MUCH
- Emmanuel KARIKURURU