



**ALLOCUTION DE MONSIEUR JONAS GBIAN COMMISSAIRE  
CHARGE DU DEPARTEMENT DE L'AMENAGEMENT DU  
TERRITOIRE COMMUNAUTAIRE ET DES TRANSPORTS**



**THIRTY-NINTH PLENARY (TRIENNIAL) SESSION  
EUROPEAN CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE  
Visioconference, 12 July 2021**

**Mr. President of the European Civil Aviation Conference;**

**Mr. President of the ICAO Council;**

**Mr. Secretary General-elect of ICAO;**

**Mr. Director General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission;**

**Madam Executive Secretary of the European Civil Aviation Conference;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen in your respective titles and ranks,**

On behalf of the President of UEMOA Commission, **Mr. Abdoulaye DIOP**, I would like to thank the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) and its Secretariat for inviting us to this 39th Plenary Session, which is being held by videoconference.

It is with pleasure that I take part in this important meeting, as we have done since the 33rd Plenary Session in July 2012. This reflects the importance and the quality of the cooperative relationship between our two institutions.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Cooperation relations between ECAC and UEMOA started before 2005 and were then formalized through a memorandum of understanding signed by the two parties on 29 December 2006. This cooperation agreement covers all areas of civil aviation.

Since 2007, cooperation has focused more on aspects of civil aviation security, through the establishment of the UEMOA Security Audit and Inspection Program, as provided for in UEMOA Regulation No. 11/2005 on civil aviation security in the Member States.

Indeed, since the establishment of their partnership in 2006, ECAC and the UEMOA Commission have ensured cross-participation in the major activities they organize, particularly in the area of civil aviation security.

Within the framework of this cooperation, the security project, provided for in the priority actions of the Common Air Transport Program of UEMOA Member States adopted in 2002, has received significant technical and financial support from ECAC, particularly in financing certification sessions for UEMOA AVSEC auditors and the provision of instructors for this purpose.

With the start of the CASE (Civil Aviation Security for Africa and Arabian Peninsula) Project, experts from UEMOA member states have benefited from ECAC funding to take part in joint activities organized with the UEMOA Commission under the Memorandum of Understanding, in Abidjan in 2016 for a workshop on air cargo security, in Lome, Togo in 2017 for a workshop on city-side vulnerability assessment and in Cotonou, Benin in 2018 for the training and certification of airport city-side vulnerability assessors.

As a reminder, the UEMOA Commission took advantage of the 2019 CASE Project Technical Seminar in Brussels to award participants from member states with certificates of achievement for the training and certification of city-side vulnerability assessors organized in Cotonou/Benin by the CASE Project in December 2018.

Please accept the thanks from the UEMOA Commission and its member states.

Indeed, the CASE Project activities have contributed to a large extent to the capacity building of our experts, particularly in the sharing of best practices in security and in the transfer of technical know-how.

You will agree with me that cooperation in the area of safety is a "success story" that deserves to continue.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Since 2018, the UEMOA Commission has entered a restructuring phase.

As regards the Department of Community Land Use Planning and Transport, for which I am responsible, the COSCAP-UEMOA Project has been completed, with a view to the operationalization of the Community Agency of the Oversight of Civil Aviation Safety and Security of Member States created by the Additional Act of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of UEMOA.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for having accompanied the COSCAP-UEMOA Project for thirteen years and for their valuable assistance in the process of creating the Community Agency of the Oversight of Civil Aviation Safety and Security (ACSAC).

By waiting the effective operationalization of this Agency, the Regional Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Unit (URSAC) has been set up on a transitional basis.

Within this framework, the safety component benefits from the support and assistance of EASA under the "EU-Africa Safety in Aviation (EU-ASA) Project".

In the coming years, UEMOA Commission hopes that cooperation will be extended to all aspects of civil aviation, including air transport, facilitation and the environment.

**Thank you for your attention.**