



# The AFSEC Newsletter

• October 2011 •

## AFSEC Workshop and Technical meetings

AFSEC held its workshop and technical meetings in Nairobi, Kenya from 5-8 September 2011 and the turnout was fantastic with about 68 delegates participating in the event. The welcome by the acting MD of KEBS, Ms Eva Oduor was followed by speeches by the AFSEC President, M. KOUTOUA Claude, and the representative of the AUC, Philippe Niyongabo. The opening address was given by EUR. ING Joab Odeny (President of the Kenya National Committee of the IEC).



**Left to right: Acting MD of KEBS, Mrs Eva Oduor; AFSEC president, M. Koutoua Claude; President of the Kenya National Committee of the IEC, EUR. ING Joab Odeny**

M KOUTOUA, AFSEC President expressed his joy to be presiding over the second AFSEC technical workshop, and noted the presence of delegates from several countries in Africa and elsewhere, showing the interest and desire of the electrotechnical standardization community to hear the voice of Africa.

He explained that the workshop is in line with the strategy of AFSEC to better address the concern of facilitating the interconnection of networks for the benefit of African populations, by equipping the technical experts with the necessary skills and information on the harmonization of standards. He noted that experts from the IEC, CENELEC and the national electrotechnical committees would make interesting presentations on different topics, allowing delegates to:

- perfect their knowledge;
- analyze the situation in Africa;
- share experiences;
- build relationships;
- assess their needs, prioritize their choices, and
- agree on a common methodology to harmonize standards.

He thanked the IEC and CENELEC for their participation in the work of AFSEC and the help they had given throughout the process of setting up AFSEC. The availability of experts at this workshop is the realization of the implementation of the cooperation agreement signed with the IEC and that AFSEC will sign with CENELEC.

He also thanked the power pools for their participation, noting that AFSEC was implementing their need to harmonize standards to facilitate the interconnection of networks in Africa and exchanges of electricity. He expressed gratitude to AFREC, AU and EU for the support and the provision of financial resources needed to organize a technical workshop and the first meetings of technical committees and to build AFSEC.

EUR. ING Joab Odeny (President of the Kenya National Committee of the IEC) congratulated AFSEC, through its Council and the Management Committee for a commendable job well executed. He noted that it was only three years since AFSEC was established and yet today it was a working organisation with definite pointed goals and a growing membership and collaborators. He thanked AFSEC and its many willing partners and sponsors that have jointly made it possible for AFSEC to walk. He remarked that at AFSEC, players all over the continent of Africa will have a home for an enhanced drive towards relevant



standardization efforts in electrotechnology. The full benefits of standardization can, however, only be realised if all pull hard and together from our various countries and regions and everywhere else in the world. The operative words are Coverage, Consensus, Cooperation and Collaboration. Highlighting the shared concerns about safety, efficiency, degradation of the environment and cost of living, he observed that through standardization we can protect Mother Earth and its populations. – such is the seriousness of our responsibilities both in development and conformity assessment of electrotechnical standards.

He highlighted the formal cooperation between AFSEC and IEC already in place and the proposed cooperation between AFSEC and CENELEC, both geared to minimize duplication of effort to achieve as much as possible congruence and harmony of the products.

He confirmed the commitment of the Kenya National Committee to the work of AFSEC, and declared the AFSEC Nairobi 2011 Workshop open.

A full transcript of these speeches can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.afsec-africa.org/storage/Speech%20by%20President%20IEC%20KE-NC%20201109.pdf>

## **Presentations at the AFSEC Workshop and Technical meetings**

The opening presentation from Paul Johnson (left), Executive Secretary AFSEC gave an overview of the evolving pan-Africa standardization and quality infrastructure. The President of ARSO, Dr Mang'eli provided a more detailed explanation of the submission coordinated by ARSO to the AUC and the partnership between AFSEC and ARSO. He emphasized the need to integrate work done by the regional economic communities (RECs) on harmonization of standards into the activities of AFSEC, and encouraged AFSEC to apply the principles embodied in the African harmonization of standards model (ASHAM) as developed by ARSO.

The other presentations provided delegates with a comprehensive insight into the IEC and its operational structures and how AFSEC could use the outputs and resources of the IEC to help in achieving its aims.

Here is a list of the presentations:

- Cenelec Presentation by Etienne Tison
- Development of standards by Jack Sheldon
- EAPP presentation to AFSEC by Zelalem Gebrehiwot
- AFSEC Workshop 2011 Plen CLC by Hervé Rochereau
- IEC Collaboration Tools Suite (CTS) by Jack Sheldon
- IEC TC organization by Etienne Tison
- IEC TC 8 overview by G Dell'Olivo
- IEC TC13 overview by Roland Hill
- IEC TC 57 overview by Paul Johnson
- IEC TC64 overview by Etienne Tison
- IEC TC 77 overview by Hervé Rochereau
- Role of TC-SC officers by Jack Sheldon
- SAPP Presentation at AFSEC - SEPT 2011 by Alison Chikova
- The Strategic Business Plan (SBP) by Jack Sheldon



**Paul Johnson, Executive  
Secretary of AFSEC**

Click on the following link for access to all the presentations:

<http://www.afsec-africa.org/documents/papers-and-presentations/electrotechnical-standardization-workshop/>



## AUC confirms support for AFSEC

Mr Philippe Niypongabo, Director for Energy at the AUC confirmed the AUC's support for the establishment of AFSEC, recognizing its importance in facilitating the development of the electrical infrastructure in Africa, and in particular to support the work of the African power pools. The workshop to build capacity with the technical structures of AFSEC had therefore been funded under a project of the Programme for Infrastructure in Africa (PIDA) utilizing funding obtained from the EU.

## Remarks by the Executive Director of AFREC, Dr Hussein Elhag

Dr Elhag noted that AFSEC was still 'under construction' and was privileged to have the relationship with AFREC that gave it formal status within the AU. The next step was to formalize the process to agree on the headquarters for AFSEC and he outlined the possible steps leading to an agreement at the next meeting of heads of state in January 2012. Close collaboration with industry is necessary for AFSEC to be effective and every opportunity to be visible at trade fairs should be taken. He advised that all efforts should also be made to sensitize African ministers of energy and ministers of trade and industry about the importance of supporting AFSEC.



## AFSEC Workshop: Certificates awarded to delegates

During the closing session of the workshop, delegates were awarded certificates of attendance. Here is a collage of photographs taken during the certificate presentation.



To view the individual photographs of the delegates receiving their certificates please click on the following link: <http://www.afsec-africa.org/picture-gallery-2011>



## Technical committee meetings

Inaugural meetings of AFSEC TC 8, TC13, TC 57, TC 64 and TC 77 were held with the assistance of the international experts and officers from the relevant IEC TCs:

G Dell'Olio TC 8: Systems aspects for electrical energy supply

R Hill TC 13: Electrical energy measurement, tariff- and load control

D Taylor TC 57: Power systems management and associated information exchange

E Tison TC 64: Electrical installations and protection against electric shock

H Rochereau TC 77: Electromagnetic compatibility

## Photographs from the AFSEC Workshop in Nairobi



View more photographs like these by clicking on this link:

<http://www.afsec-africa.org/picture-gallery-2011>

**"The French version of the AFSEC website is live"**

As the bulletin carries the objective of keeping its readers up-to-date with the latest happenings and developments in the Industry we welcome and encourage you to send us your thoughts and comments. *Please note that the views do not necessarily represent those of AFSEC.*