



# The AFSEC Newsletter

• May 2011 •

## A message of fortitude to the AFSEC President

Despite the violence that continues in Abidjan, the secretariat has been able to keep in contact with the AFSEC President M. KOUTOUA Claude.

On behalf of the AFSEC membership we convey a message of fortitude to the AFSEC President and his family, and also to our colleagues, in the national committees of Cote d'Ivoire, Libya and other countries feeling the effects of political unrest.

**CAPTION:** M. Claude Koutoua, AFSEC President



## SADCSTAN accepted as SADC's representative in AFSEC

At the annual meeting of SADCSTAN in Gaborone, Botswana 26 March 2011, SADCSTAN, the SADC group responsible for harmonisation of standards in that region, the AFSEC Executive Secretary advised that SADCSTAN had been accepted as an affiliate member of AFSEC.

## Botswana expresses interest in becoming a statutory member of AFSEC

Further to a meeting the managing director of Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) Ms M B Marobela, the Executive Secretary of AFSEC had discussion with representatives of the standardization team in BOBS, to explore the next steps for a National Committee to be formed in Botswana and for membership of AFSEC

**CAPTION (right):** Mr Faku, Director Standards and Mr Johnson Executive Secretary AFSEC shake hands



**CAPTION (Below):** Mr T Faku BOBS with Mr Johnson AFSEC and Ms.K Segomelo



**The African Electrotechnical  
Standardization Commission**  
**Commission  
Electrotechnique Africaine  
de Normalisation**



### **Sixth Coordinating meeting of the African Power Pools, Mombasa, Kenya, 12-13 April 2011**



Mrs. Eva Oduor, AFSEC Second Vice President, represented AFSEC at the sixth coordination meeting of the African Power Pools, held in Mombasa, Kenya 12-13 April 2011.

AFSEC has been a regular participant in all such coordination meetings since their inception. Eva provided the meeting with an update of progress in AFSEC, and encouraged the power pools that had yet to join AFSEC to do so. She confirmed that AFSEC intended to support African power pools to ensure that standardization is embraced from the outset in the pan-African electricity supply industry, in areas such as quality of supply, and interconnections projects.



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## Meeting of representatives of the four pan-African structures

A first meeting of representatives of the four pan-African structures that may be considered as the pan-African quality infrastructure met to deliberate on the way forward to achieve closer collaboration with the African Union in Nairobi, Kenya 5-6 April 2011.

### The four structures are

**AFRAC**, the newly formed cooperation in African Accreditation,  
**AFRIMETS**, the cooperation among African metrology institutes,  
**AFSEC**, the African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission, and  
**ARSO**, the African Organisation for standardization.

The meeting was organised by PTB, Germany, and included a representative from NEPAD. It was facilitated by Dr. Oswald Chinyamakobvu (SADC SQAM expert).

While it was recognised that AFSEC already had a formal linkage to the AU through the African Energy Commission, it was evident that a collective approach for the four bodies to credibly able to represent Africa internationally in the disciplines of Accreditation, Metrology, and standardization and quality infrastructure in generally would be a step forward in realising specific goals of the Abuja Treaty of the AU.



First meeting of the pan African quality infrastructure representatives



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## Event for 2011

Formal events this year will include a 2-day training workshop, primarily to build capacity and skills in the technical standardization committees of AFSEC. This workshop will be immediately followed by meetings of the five technical committees now being established, effectively as mirror committees of the following IEC Technical committees:

TC 8, TC 13, TC 57, TC 64, TC 77.

The IEC has offered to facilitate international technical experts to provide the training required.

At these inaugural meetings of the TCs, the chairman and rapporteurs will be nominated. The meetings will be followed by a meeting of the AFSEC management committee. The technical committee chairmen are formally members of the AFSEC management committee

These events are being planned to take place from 5 to 9 September 2011, in Nairobi, Kenya.

**MEMBERS – PLEASE DIARISE THESE IMPORTANT EVENTS!**

A formal notice confirming the dates and venue will be issued shortly.

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## More formal collaborations being put in place

The AFSEC President has recently agreed the final text of the cooperation between AFSEC and CENELEC (Europe). This should be signed later in 2011.

The AFSEC Executive Secretary has initiated the MoU between ARSO and AFSEC, which will amongst other things, formalize the recognition by ARSO of the role of AFSEC as the pan-African body for the harmonisation of electrotechnical standards.

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

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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 that of AFSEC.*

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