

FIA CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN MOTORSPORT (C.A.C.M.S)  
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIA CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN  
COUNTRIES IN MOTORSPORT (CACMS) MEETING HELD AT THE  
VINEYARD HOTEL AND SPA, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA ON  
SATURDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011 AT 09H00.**

**Present:**

Surinder Thatthi (Chairman)  
Adam Yachine  
Jimmy Rakotofiringa  
Anselme Bigirimana  
Antonio Marques  
Ercilia Langa  
Ralph Stead  
Austin Whitehead  
Behailu Desta Asfaw  
Chris Eden  
Jim Kahumbura  
Yves Kagina  
Dismas Kayibanda  
Christian Gakwaya  
Dippies Dippenar  
Jan de Jager  
Francois Pretorius  
Richard Schilling  
Willie du Plessis  
Jerry Bailey  
George Kagimu  
Kisitu Mayanja  
Jacques Regis  
Ngom El Hadj Boubacar  
Nizar Jivani  
Satinder Birdi  
Sam Ching'ambu  
Simon Modisaemang

**ASN**

CACMS – FIA Vice President Sport for Africa  
Federation Du Sport Automobile de Madagascar  
Federation Du Sport Automobile de Madagascar  
Burundi  
ATCM Mozambique  
ATCM Mozambique  
Zimbabwe Motor Sport Federation (ZMSF)  
Zimbabwe Motor Sport Federation (ZMSF)  
Ethiopia Motor Sport Association  
Kenya Motor Sport Federation (KMSF)  
Kenya Motor Sport Federation (KMSF)  
Rwanda Automobile Club  
Rwanda Automobile Club  
Rwanda Automobile Club  
Namibia Motor Sport Federation (NMSF)  
Namibia Motor Sport Federation (NMSF)  
Motorsport South Africa (MSA)  
Motorsport South Africa (MSA)  
Motorsport South Africa (MSA)  
Motorsport South Africa (MSA) + FIA Technical Delegate  
Fed. Of Motor Sport Clubs of Uganda (FMU)  
Fed. Of Motor Sport Clubs of Uganda (FMU)  
FFSA Reunion & Mauritius  
FISAM Ivory Coast  
Automobile Association of Tanzania (AAT)  
Automobile Association of Tanzania (AAT)  
Zambia Motor Sport Association  
Botswana 911

**16 African FIA Member countries were represented**

**In attendance:**

Jonathan Ashman	FIA – President FIA Rally Commission
Peter Doggwiler	FIA
Ronan Morgan	Observer – Middle East region
Paul Turner	Observer - South Africa + Sasol coordinator

**1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

- 1.1 Mr. Surinder Thatthi, the CACMS Chairman, welcomed all members present and there were no apologies received. **NOTED.**
- 1.2 Mr. Thatthi reported that Mr. Jean Todt, the President of the FIA could unfortunately not attend the Conference, and had tendered his apologies and sent a message to all

participants which is in the dossier on Page 2 and this message was read to all before the meeting. **NOTED.**

- 1.3 Mr. Thatthi welcomed Mr. Peter Doggwiler and Mr. Jonathan Ashman also from the FIA to the meeting, and thanked him for his attendance. **NOTED.**
- 1.4 The Chief Executive Officer of Motorsport South Africa, Mr. Francois Pretorius, welcomed everybody to South Africa, and the meeting was declared open at 09h05.
- 1.4 Additions to the Agenda:  
- Co-efficient for the FIA Rally Championship (Madagascar)

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting held on 04<sup>th</sup> September 2010 in Nairobi Kenya were **CONFIRMED** as being correct and signed.

## 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 3.1 Seeding System and Starting Order – Min. 7.1 refers

Mr. Thatthi confirmed that provision had been made in the 2011 African Rally Championship Regional Regulations to include the recommended rotation system. **NOTED.**

### 3.2 Safety Tracking System – Min. 8 refers

Mr. Thatthi reported that several countries had quite successfully implemented tracking systems, but added that some countries had experienced problems with the GSM coverage in areas, but stated that this would be addressed later on under the agenda point.

### 3.3 Yellow Cards – Min. 10 refers

Mr. George Kagimu, from Uganda, queried what the status of the Yellow card was for Uganda. Mr. Thatthi reported that the Yellow card status had been removed for Uganda following the very successful running of the event in 2011. He added that although Uganda sporting wise ran well in 2010, the yellow card had been put in place on safety reasons, due to the fact there were two public fatalities on that event.

A discussion ensued regarding the “World Ranking”, resulting in it being **AGREED** that Mr. Thatthi write to the hosts to advise them that they have it all wrong, and perhaps enquire how the ranking system works. It was **AGREED** that this system is by no means an official ranking site, but merely based on personal opinions.

## 4. KARTING IN AFRICA

Mr. Antonio Marques gave an outline of the current state of karting in the region, but stated that he felt that, with Mr. Thatthi’s support, the FIA could be approached to look at introducing an academy to encourage competitors to start their racing careers in karting as it is far cheaper than other formulas.

Mr. Pretorius confirmed that South Africa were not using the FIA/CIK Classes, but were using the Rotax chassis but with other engines. He added that karting was definitely an ideal way of getting people into motorsport, as well as obtaining a younger competitor base.

Mr. Marques recommended perhaps forming a sub-committee to assess each country and come up with ideas to standardise karting throughout the region. Mr. Kagimu stated that unfortunately Uganda does not have a circuit or the infrastructure to be able to build one. Mr. Pretorius recommended that consideration should be given to try and host events in parking lots etc, to get people interested.

**AGREED** that members from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Uganda and Mozambique communicate to try and get standardised rules in place, as well as karts etc to aim at cross border participation, and share their standardised rules with the rest of the continent.

## 5. CROSS COUNTRY RALLIES

Mr. Pretorius confirmed that Cross Country Rallies was very strong in South Africa for both cars and bikes, but that the events had been held separately for many years, on grounds of safety.

Mr. Thatthi advised that in a recent conversation with the Dakar route planner Tiziano Silvero he said the Dakar competitors wanted to come back to Africa. He encouraged members to think about talking to the organisers of the Dakar in South America, should they wish to get involved to get it back to Africa.

## 6. AFRICAN RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

### 6.1 Revue of ARC Registration

Following a discussion on the viability of continuing with the registration process, or abolishing the process, it was **AGREED** by majority vote the registration process by abolished for a trial period of one year, where after the matter would be reviewed. It was further **CONFIRMED** that the rule to participate in two events per regions would remain unchanged.

### 6.2 Safety Tracking equipment for Africa or grouped ASN's

Mr. Kagimu suggest perhaps CACMS consider developing their own Tracking system, and perhaps support South Africa's system and investigate the costs of using the services of an ASN in Africa, opposed to European services.

**AGREED** that South Africa look into the costs of the rental of the system to go to other rounds of the ARC and provide the same function as per the South African Championship. It was **FURTHER AGREED** that a tracking budget be put together for Surinder to liaise with the Institute to see if they can assist with the running of the system for the ARC events.

Ronan Morgan advised all about the tracking and timing system used in Middle East from a company Sportraxx and said he would ask them to send details about this to CACMS to distribute to members.

### 6.3 Best event award

It was **AGREED** that the Best FIA African Rally Championship rally event as per the FIA Observers points system be invited to the next CACMS Conference and be present with a token award for their efforts to be recognised.

## 7. 2012 AFRICAN RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

Mr. Thatthi reported that he had received a request for a date change by one week forward to 19/21<sup>st</sup> April for the South African round of the championship.

Mr. Pretorius outlined the rationale for the request, with the main reason being that it was to move the event from the weekend of 12-14<sup>th</sup> April to the weekend of the 19<sup>th</sup>, as the 12<sup>th</sup> was the Easter weekend, which was considered as one of South Africa's most important holidays and that there would be major traffic movements etc and was just practical over that weekend.

As Zambia felt that this potential change could have adverse effects on their event three weeks thereafter, it was **AGREED** that Mr. Ching'ambu discuss the request with his Zambia Federation's Rally Commission and revert back to Mr. Pretorius and Mr. Thatthi by Friday, 26<sup>h</sup> August 2011, on their decision.

Mr. Thatthi reiterated the importance of federations taking the circulated ARC dates into account when setting their national rally dates and this was the reason ARC 2012 dates were circulated in May 2011. He added that countries should try to avoid date clashes so competitors have the best chance to participate in both championships. Mr. Kagimu stated, with due

respect to South Africa, that if motorsport was to be developed on the continent, that federations put the ARC as the top tier of motorsport and then arrange their events around these dates. **NOTED**.

Mr. Pretorius stated that due to the complexity of setting South Africa's calendar, it was unfortunate, but South Africa would have to reconsider its position in the ARC if the date change request was not possible. **NOTED**.

## **8. FIA Application for Free participation within the Zones**

Mr. Thatthi reported that he had received a request to allow competitors to be able to compete and score within other country's championships within the zone. This has been applied for at the FIA and a complete revue of the FIA's zone regulations is being done at present.

Mr. Thatthi further reported that he had received a request from the FIA Vice President for the Middle East that he has been approached by Arabic speaking North African countries to join the Middle East region. Mr. Ronan Morgan confirmed that they had invited these north African countries to the Middle East regional meeting next month in Lebanon to discuss their request and if the CACMS members agree to this proposal then he can advise them. Mr. Jacques Regis stated that he and FFSA felt that regions and zones should be geographic and not cultural. This was discussed further and it was concluded as follows:

If the North African zone countries wish to be associated with the Middle East Region then they should make this an agreement with the Middle East Region and not move their zone into that region. It was **AGREED** to split the African member countries into four zones as follows:

### **North African zone**

Mauritania  
Morocco  
Algeria  
Libya  
Egypt  
Tunisia  
Northern Sudan

### **West Africa Zone**

Ivory Coast  
Senegal  
Nigeria

### **East African Zone**

Uganda  
Tanzania  
Rwanda  
Burundi  
Ethiopia  
Kenya

### **Southern Zone**

Zambia  
Zimbabwe  
DRC  
Namibia  
Mozambique  
South Africa (incl. Botswana)  
Mauritius  
Reunion  
Madagascar

It was **FURTHER AGREED** that Mr. Thatthi would send these proposed regions to Morrie Chandler of News Zealand to add to his Zone document for the FIA World Council consideration.

It was **AGREED** that cross border participation be allowed, free of charge, free of licence using their federation's National licence, with all drivers being eligible to score in the championships, subject to the country's local legislation.

Mr. Jacques Regis stated that in such a case the competitors must sign a waiver to "give up their rights to any international appeal at the FIA" for these events will be national events and not international events.

**9. REGIONAL TRAINING IN SAFETY DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Mr. Kagimu proposed that if countries were doing any training programmes within their country, to include other countries within the region to be able to exchange ideas and be cost effective and practical. **AGREED.**

**10. CACMS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Mr. Kagimu stated that he didn't want to be misunderstood with this recommendation, and thanked and congratulated Mr. Thatthi on a brilliant job to get motorsport to where it currently is. He added that he felt that if motorsport was to grow within the region, then support would be needed for Mr. Thatthi, and recommended that a committee be formed to assist Mr. Thatthi like an Exco.

Following mixed opinions on the function of an exco type of body, it was **AGREED** that once the FIA had approved the regions, each zone would have to elect a Chair person that would communicate with Mr. Thatthi on the zone's behalf. It was **FURTHER AGREED** that the Chairman of CACMS could not be the Chairman of any Zone.

**11. CO-EFFICIENT FOR THE FIA RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP (MADAGASCAR)**

Mr. Adam Yachine stated that as the registration process had been abolished, there was no need for co-efficient. **NOTED.**

**12. YOUNG DRIVER ACADEMY**

Mr. Jan de Jager queried whether it would be viable for Africa to look at a Young Driver academy to be able to send the best from Africa to the FIA Programme from there. Following a discussion on this, it was **AGREED** that each country still submit its applications to the FIA for the Young Driver Academy directly, but that investigation be done to investigate the possibility of getting established competitors to go to different countries to provide skills and knowledge to other countries to assist countries to improve their standards.

**13. LONDON TO CAPE TOWN RALLY**

Zambia and Tanzania confirmed that they had been approached by the organisers of this event to run it through their countries and confirmed that each country was being paid by the organisers a fee of US\$ 4000, but seemingly Kenya, Ethiopia and South Africa had not been approached for permission. Mr. Francois Pretorius stated that MSA had all the rights to govern and licence motorsport in South Africa by a Government Legislation so they will advise the organisers that they are not welcome unless they first formalise their rally with MSA.

**AGREED** that Messrs Jivani and Birdi send the contact details to Mr. Thatthi for Kenya to be in touch with the organisers.

**AGREED** that each country take up the issue with the organisers, to advise on the protocol required.

**14. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF CACMS**

**AGREED** that the next meeting be held in August 2012, with the venue to be advised.

**AGREED** that Mr. Thatthi advise the Institute that the member countries would like to have the chance to host the meeting on a rotation basis, if at all possible.

Mr. Whitehead expressed sincere thanks, on behalf of everybody present, to Surinder for everything that he does for CACMS and congratulated him on the superb job.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 12h41.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_