

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FIA CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN
COUNTRIES IN MOTORSPORT (CACMS) MEETING HELD AT THE
PARADIS HOTEL AND GOLF CLUB, MAURITIUS ON
TUESDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 08H30**

Present:

Surinder Thatthi (Chairman)
Adam Yachine
Sandy Solofonirina
Anselme Bigirimana
Ralph Stead
Austin Whitehead
Hardial Kalsi
Mark Tilbury
Viren Goricha
Christian Gakwaya
Frikkie Roelofse
Harold Lingner
Richard Leeke
Willie du Plessis
George Kagimu
Jacques Regis
Jean-Pierre Ollivier
Christian Affoque
Alain Ambrosino
Satinder Birdi
Sam Ching'ambu
Simon Modisaemang
Kevin Branch
Edward Osakwe
Henriette Jooste (Secretary)

ASN

CACMS – FIA Vice President Sport for Africa
Federation Du Sport Automobile de Madagascar
Federation Du Sport Automobile de Madagascar
Club Automobile du Burundi
Zimbabwe Motor Sport Federation (ZMSF)
Zimbabwe Motor Sport Federation (ZMSF)
Kenya Motor Sport Federation (KMSF)
Kenya Motor Sport Federation (KMSF)
FIA Technical Delegate Africa
Rwanda Automobile Club
Namibia Motor Sport Federation (NMSF)
Namibia Motor Sport Federation (NMSF)
Motorsport South Africa (MSA)
FIA Chairman of Stewards (ARC-CACMS)
Fed. of Motor Sport Clubs of Uganda (FMU)
FFSA Reunion & Mauritius
FFSA Reunion
Mauritius
FISAM Ivory Coast
Automobile Association of Tanzania (AAT)
Zambia Motor Sport Association
Botswana
Botswana Motor Sport
ATCL Nigeria
CACMS (SA)

15 African FIA Member countries were represented

In attendance:

Jean Todt	FIA President
Prof Gerard Saillant	President FIA Institute
Ronan Morgan	ATCUAE
Sean O'Connor	ATCUAE
Mohammed Ben Sulayem	ATCUAE
Andrew Papadopolous	Australia (CAMS)
Charles Reynolds	ATCUAE
Peter Doggwiler	FIA Institute
Gus Glover	FIA Institute
Kate Robson	FIA Institute
Steve Harding	FIA Institute presenter Motorsport South Africa
Andrea Bate	FIA Academy Driver (South Africa)
Allan Dean-Lewis	Regional Training Provider - MSA UK
Sue Sanders	Regional Training Provider - MSA UK

1. WELCOME

1.1 Welcome by CACMS Chairman

Mr. Surinder Thatthi, the CACMS Chairman, welcomed all members present and addressed a special word of welcome to Mr Jean Todt, FIA President and Prof Gerard Saillant, President of the FIA Institute.

He expressed his concern that motor sport in Africa and especially the African Rally Championship are struggling at the moment with a few issues such as entries, homologation, classes and type of cars available to the drivers at affordable prices and then also the financial implications to organisers in the ARC who incur FIA costs for no real benefit due to the lack of entries in our sport and the ARC.

1.2 Address by FIA President Jean Todt

Mr. Jean Todt, the President of the FIA was introduced to the meeting and welcomed all participants from the different Africa countries represented. A special word of thanks was honoured to Surinder Thatthi as the Chairman and to Jacques Regis and Christian Affoque from Mauritius for their efforts put in to host the 2012 CACMS meeting in the beautiful Mauritius.

He wished well upon the meeting for the brainstorming discussions and hopefully good solutions. He said he was aware of the problems Africa faced and one of the solutions of extension of the life of the homologated cars has already been put forward to the next WMSC meeting in Paris on 28th September 2012. He asked for a full report on the discussions that will be held and he will see how the FIA can help with solutions to Africa's problems.

Mr Todt thanked Prof Saillant and his team from the FIA Institute for their contribution and successful workshop on Monday in training the ASN's to apply for funds to develop motor sport in their countries. He wants all countries to get the benefits of these monies. The FIA will assist with programmes and wants to support all clubs/countries as rallying is very important in Africa.

He and the FIA want a WRC in Africa but not on open roads, because safety is a priority in all regulations in our sport. He stated that South Africa who have hosted international events, eg the 2010 World Cup Soccer, but the WRC candidate event in South Africa held recently was not so good so he looks forward for another event which would be suitable either in South Africa or elsewhere in Africa.

Motor sport can also help with general road safety and Africa needs help in Road safety for it has very high accident statistics. He said one can improve road safety by looking at the culture, roads and people to make the correct decisions and the FIA will assist where they can. FIA wants to do a lot more and wants to achieve more, but all can only realise with the help of the African countries.

Mr Surinder Thatthi thanked the President for his kind and encouraging words and both his presence and that of Prof Saillant was a good sign that the FIA cares for Africa.

1.3 Introduction of all the members present

The Chairman announced as discussed in the 2011 CACMS meeting that the award for the top African Rally Championship event for 2011 was won by the Toyota Zimbabwe Challenge Rally. Mr Ralph Stead and Austin Whitehead accepted the award from the FIA President, Mr Jean Todt.

The Chairman revealed that Zimbabwe pulled out of the ARC for economic reasons as they can't justify the money to host an event with all the permit fees, tracking system cost and additional fees to pay for the international Stewards etc and the CACMS Chairman hoped that Zimbabwe would reconsider their decision and rejoin the 2013 ARC. **NOTED.**

The Chairman also noted that Africa through FIA Rallies Commission have requested for funding for the safety tracking system and hopefully this application will be considered. **NOTED.**

All members were introduced with a special welcome to the new President of the member in Ivory Coast, Mr Alain Ambrosino and Mr. Kevin Branch from Botswana who have made their application to join the FIA for this year.

1.4 Additions to the Agenda:

Mr Richard Leeke had slides to show on the following –

- Karting in SA
- Licence statistics in SA
- The Polo - New entry level car R2B 1600

The above were discussion under Item 12 of the Agenda – Other Businesses.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology was received from the President of Nigeria Mr. Abdulraheem, but he has sent a representative, Mr Edward Osakwe to represent him.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Willie du Plessis proposed and Mr Austin Whitehead seconded the minutes of the 2011 CACMS meeting as a true reflection of the proceedings at that meeting held in Cape Town South Africa on 20th August 2011.

CONFIRMED as being correct and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD IN CAPE TOWN, SA ON 20TH AUGUST 2011

4.1 FIA Application for free participation within the Zones – Min. 8 refers

Mr. Thatthi confirmed that the application was sent to the FIA that based on the Article in the International Sporting Code which allowed participation within the European Union by using a national competition licence.

A request was made that the FIA considers the various international Trading unions within Africa like the East African Community in East Africa, the SADAC in Southern Africa and COMESA in West Africa. Africa proposed that cross border participation within these areas be allowed freely to help to increase and promote motor sport within these regions.

The Chairman stated that this had rejected by the FIA Legal department and the FIA Secretary General Mr. Pierre De Coninck on the basis that FIA had had a court ruling which compelled it to implement this ISC rule for Europe only and Mr. De Coninck felt that FIA would lose revenue from the application of zone permit fees if they allow this.

The WMSC has appointed a team to review the world zones but this team has also been frustrated by the FIA Administration and the document prepared has not been passed by the FIA.

The zones for Africa proposed in 2011 were as follows and the meeting felt that the FIA should re-consider on our request again:

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
Botswana
Mauritius
Reunion

Madagascar

The meeting felt that FIA is dictating to Africa and we must have the authority to make decisions on our own about how we can improve our sport in Africa.

Mr Ralph Stead stated Zimbabwe's concern is that matters raised at CACMS meetings over the years to change regulations to suit Africa conditions, have not been heeded by the FIA. In fact it appeared that perhaps the FIA had a dictatorial attitude in so much that what was decided in Paris should apply regionally without due consideration to what has been requested by CACMS. This has ultimately led to their frustration with the system and less interest in the ARC.

Mr Jean Todt came back into the Meeting and listened to the concerns.

It was **AGREED** that Mr Surinder Thatthi will send a letter to the FIA about this matter and to strongly put forward the feeling of the African countries. FIA must try to give solutions and not creating more problems for the countries who wish to cooperate amongst each other for the improvement of motor sport in our region.

Mr Todt advised the Chairman to make a clear request and to send it through to FIA Administration and to copy the President as well.

5. KARTING IN AFRICA

5.1 Karting matters within CACMS – Zimbabwe

Mr Ralph Stead gave an outline of the current status of karting in Zimbabwe and graded it as strong. They've got the "Mini Roc" Championship with 7 entries and it is ran on the FIA/CIK classes. It was agreed that Mr Stead will do an e-mail to Mr Thatthi and he will then send it to the FIA.

Mr Thatthi stated that karting is quite strong in Kenya and that they have a talented young boy, 8 years of age, who has been asked to come to UK to try out for possible qualification into the F1 Force India's young drivers Academy. He urged the countries to make known to CACMS any exceptional talent in Africa so we can ask for help to access the talent and see if he can get international exposure.

Uganda and Namibia reported not to be active and apparently Mozambique is quite strong, but also needs cross border participation.

Mr Richard Leeke presented a document to the meeting and offered assistance to all countries. SA has a karting championship in place and again it can be made easier with cross border participation.
The document is attached to this Minutes.

AGREED that members from karting active countries communicate to try and get standardised rules in place, as well as karts, etc to aim at cross border participation.

6. CROSS COUNTRY RALLIES

Mr. Richard Leeke confirmed that Cross Country Rallies was very strong in South Africa for both cars, quads and bikes, but that the events had been held separately for many years on grounds of safety. SA has 8 National events with +/- 67 entries in the different categories. The Botswana Toyota Off-Road is the biggest on the calendar for SA. This year SA had 5 teams in the Dakar.

In Kenya cross country rallies became very popular, but is ran on circuits for cars, bikes and quads – Mr. Leeke advised that South Africa had stopped using cars and bikes in the same races as they had had some accidents in the past.

Mr Thatthi invited other countries to get involved in cross country rallies.

Mr Ronan Morgan advised that this can in future maybe cross country cars could be allowed to be used in the ARC to boost entries although these cars must be homologated by the FIA as they have allowed the T3 cars into the Middle East Rally Championship for 2013. He suggested we should stay away from the very powerful T1 cars which are very heavily modified.

7. AFRICAN RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

7.1 Re-introduction of ARC Registration

Following a discussion in 2011 on the viability of continuing with the registration process or to abolish the process, it was agreed in 2011 by majority vote to abolish the registration process for a trial period of one year – after the one year it was now AGREED that registration must come back. The Championship needs more competitors and registration is one method for ARC contenders to score points especially in events like the Sasol Rally and the KCB Safari Rally.

Decision: Registration for ARC to be implemented again in 2013

The status of the ARC Championship

Mr Austin Whitehead (Zimbabwe) asked the three basic questions –

- Do we accept that we've got a problem in the ARC?
- Do the FIA want a meaningful ARC?
- Do we want a meaningful ARC?

He summarized that there is NO quick fix to our problem.

The Chairman came to a conclusion of all the problems mentioned –

- Logistical problems, such as travel
- Promoter/Series sponsor for the ARC
- Create value to offer – good for tourism in any country
- Get Government support
- Two different championships – North and South

Mr Ralph Stead mentioned that the FIM offers assistance to competitors and asked the question why the same can't happen from the FIA.

Mr Charles Reynolds suggested reconsidering the cars in the championship. Propose our own set of rules and regulations to FIA for cars manufactured in Africa. Maybe "Cross Country" on a regional level is the way to go.

Discussion on a two tier ARC Championship – one in the North region and one in the South Region with a final "shoot-out" to determine the annual ARC champion from the one final. This radical idea was discussed and Kenya's Mark Tilbury and South Africa's Willie du Plessis were given the task to put some idea's on paper and CACMS can circulate this to all members for discussion.

The reduction of the cost of an ARC rally was also another proposal. CACMS to write to the FIA to consider to reduce the event permit fees from E 3400 to E400 for the next three years for ARC rallies to be able to use this money of E 3000 to provide travel benefits to competitors to increase entries and hopefully after 3 years the championship will have recovered.

AGREED BY ALL: Our FIA African Rally Championship is almost dead and definitely needs to be revived. We need the help of the FIA for the next 3 years to try to bring the Championship out of the "hospital" and the FIA should see this and help us.

7.2 Safety Tracking equipment for Africa

Mr Willie Du Plessis (MSA) prepared a renting document with the costs of the rental of the SA system to go to other rounds of the ARC and provide the same function as per the South African Championship. The document was circulated and noted.

Mr Jonathan Ashman spoke to the FIA regarding the investigation into a system for all ARC events. Mr Thatthi will speak to Mr Gus Glover, Director of Education, FIA Institute about this. It was noted that the cost of this tracking system which is very basic tool of the "event safety" was also one of the biggest costs in the organisation of an ARC rally and that we must not allow a compromise on the provision of this basic safety tool at any ARC rally event.

7.3 Two different North and South Championships (Kenya)

Mr Richard Leeke suggested that maybe the North and South championships and that we start with a Regional Championship. Mr du Plessis added that CACMS must revise the way we're running the ARC. It was AGREED that Mr Willie du Plessis (SA) and Mr Mark Tilbury (Kenya) will form a small working group to put down rules and ideas to build up a regional championship and from there it will move forward. This document will be circulated to all members for input and comments. We're looking to 2014 for the implementation if agreed.

7.4 Regional Championships (Uganda)

The meeting had nothing to add to the previous discussion. The ASN will await the document from the appointed working group.

7.5 Co-efficient on the ARC (Madagascar)

Mr Adam Yachine stated that if the registration process is back we do not need look at the co-efficient again.

7.6 Lack of entries for the ARC (Zambia)

The reasons for the lack of entries for the ARC were discussed under Min. 7.1

7.7 Viability, relevance and sustainability of the ARC in its current format (Zimbabwe)

This was discussed in detail in the previous discussions and the document compiled by Mr Austin Whitehead.

Mr Willie du Plessis felt that it is time to indicate a date as from when to start with smaller classes – 1600 Two wheel drive cars. This was discussed and not agreed by all countries.

Mr Richard Leeke stated that an entry level class is needed. He presented a document to promote the VW Polo Cup as a possibility for all countries. This car and its attached brochure was welcomed by all but it is important that VW must do a minimum of a regional homologation for this car so that it can be used in the ARC or any WRC event on the African continent.

After much discussion the conclusion to limit the 2015 ARC to only 1600cc Type R2B cars was not agreed for now as the other countries first want to see the performance in South Africa as an entry level car.

It was AGREED that all the members will go back to their ASN's and Rally Commissions to discuss and that the meeting will go for a fax/e-mail vote within ONE month if we should limit cars to 1600cc for the 2015 and onwards in the ARC.

The relevant document of the new R2B model VW Polo will be attached to the Minutes.

8. THE 2013 AFRICAN RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

The proposed calendar – Version 2 was discussed and CACMS requested if the ARC countries agreed to the inclusion of the Rally Cote D' Ivoire into the 2013 ARC with an asterix subject to a satisfactory FIA Observation in December 2012. It was agreed that Richard Leeke be sent to make this observation.

The rest of the 2013 ARC calendar confirmed with only one date change for the new Rally Cote D'Ivoire.

January 2013	No event
February 2013	No event
01 – 03 March 2013	Rally Bandama Cote D'Ivoire ***
18 – 20 April 2013	Sasol Rally South Africa
17 – 19 May 2013	Zambia International Rally
14 – 16 June 2013	Tanzania Rally
05 – 07 July 2013	Kenya Safari Rally

(Ramadan 9 July to 7 August 2013)

16 – 18 August 2013	Uganda Rally
20 – 22 September 2013	Rwanda Mountain Gorilla Rally
01 – 03 November 2013	Madagascar Rally

*** Subject to observation in December 2012

Mr Surinder Thatthi offered to make the inscriptions for the 2013 calendar and all countries asked CACMS to go ahead and make these inscriptions.

9. DUAL CHAMPIONSHIP CROSS BORDER PARTICIPATION (Namibia)

After discussion it was agreed that it is not possible at this stage for one to participate in dual national rally championships and score points in both championships.

This of course can be a private agreement between any two ASN's and if they agree to allow this then this is OK.

10. OFFICIAL TRAINING (Rwanda)

Satisfied with previous discussions.

11. REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES (Uganda)

Mr. George Kagimu stated that after the FIA Institute funding seminar it was cleared that ALL countries can qualify for money from the Institute and only need to complete an application.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Richard Leeke prepared a document re the status of licenses in Motor Sport in South Africa.

13. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT CACMS MEETING

Mr Samuel Ching'ambu from Zambia invited the meeting to take place in Livingstone, Zambia in 2013 during the first week of September. This was noted but not confirmed for an application first had to be made to the FIA Institute to see if they wish to hold a workshop at the same time.

The second invitation came from Ivory Coast, and this would be considered on the same basis as above.

The Chairman thanked the two countries for the proposed invitations.

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

The meeting adjourned at 13h15.

Signed: _____ Date: _____