



## FIFTH MEETING OF THE ABIDJAN-LAGOS CORRIDOR STEERING COMMITTEE

Novotel Hôtel, Cotonou, BENIN

### FINAL COMMUNIQUE

1. The fifth meeting of the Steering Committee of the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor Highway Project was held on June 30, 2014 at the Novotel Hotel, Cotonou, Republic of Benin.
2. The meeting was organized by the Steering Committee, through its Chairman, the Minister of Works of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, **His Excellency, Arc. Mike O. ONOLEMEMEN** in collaboration with the Minister of Public Works and Transport of Benin Republic, **His Excellency Mr. Natonde AKE**.
3. The meeting was organized following the directives given by the Heads of State and Government of the Member States concerned (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria), at the margins of 22<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on January 30, 2014. During the meeting, the Chairman of the Steering Committee informed the five (5) Heads of State and Government of the progress made on the Project implementation. The Heads of State indicated that they will be signing the Treaty presented at the 44<sup>th</sup> Summit of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government planned for Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire on March 28, 2014. The Heads of State and Government further directed the Ministers of the beneficiary States to propose a sharing formula for the mobilization of \$50 million seed fund to be allocated for project preparation for their consideration.
4. This meeting was attended by the following Ministers of Infrastructure/ Public Works or their duly authorized representatives:
  - Republic of Benin;
  - Republic of Côte d'Ivoire;
  - Republic of Ghana;
  - Federal Republic of Nigeria;
  - Togolese Republic.
5. The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee reviewed and discussed the following points:

- a. Interventions by Donors and Consultants interested in the project.
  - b. Request for funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB);
  - c. Briefing on the meeting at the 44<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government ;
  - d. Modalities for the mobilization of the US\$50 million dollars seed fund.
6. Regarding the intervention of the Donors and Consultants interested in the project, all the Partners expressed their interest and readiness to support the ECOWAS Commission and Member States in the implementation of the Project.
  7. With regard to the request for funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB), the ECOWAS Commission informed the members of the Steering Committee of an AfDB preparatory mission which visited ECOWAS from 10 to 17 June, 2014. An Aide-Memoire was signed in which African Development Bank (AfDB) committed to source grant funding.
  8. With regard to the briefing of the Heads of State on the sideline of the last ECOWAS summit in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, the Chairman brought to the attention of the members, the following points:
    - a. The five (5) Heads of State and Government signed the Treaty for the Abidjan-Lagos Highway Project as presented. This document is an indispensable tool for the implementation of the Project;
    - b. The five (5) Heads of State requested that the issue of the sharing formula/distribution among members countries for the mobilization of the US\$50 million needed for the project preparation be deferred until the next Summit of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government in Accra, Ghana in July 2014, to enable the Chairman of the ECOWAS Authority to exploit the possibility of European Union's assistance to the Project.
  9. Concerning the sharing formula to determine the contributions of the countries, the Steering Committee agreed as follows:
    - The formula adopted is the mean of distribution derived from parameters such as population, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the length of the road to be built. This gives the following distribution (in millions of USD) :

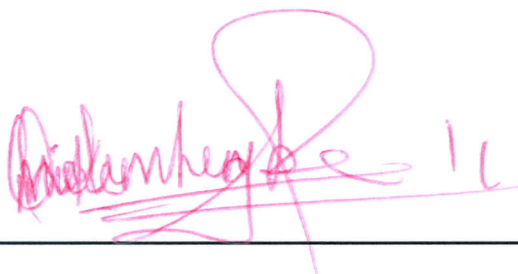
| COUNTRY            | POPULATION        | GDP               | ROAD LENGTH       | TOTAL             |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Côte d'Ivoire      | 2,143,870         | 4,420,908         | 8,414,397         | <b>4,993,058</b>  |
| Ghana              | 5,669,045         | 6,380,507         | 27,140,078        | <b>13,063,210</b> |
| Togo               | 1,473,274         | 516,276           | 2,772,374         | <b>1,587,308</b>  |
| Benin              | 2,143,649         | 1,224,889         | 6,566,148         | <b>3,311,562</b>  |
| Nigeria            | 38,570,162        | 37,457,421        | 5,107,004         | <b>27,044,862</b> |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b> | <b>50,000,000</b> | <b>50,000,000</b> | <b>50,000,000</b> | <b>50,000,000</b> |



10. The Steering Committee directed the ECOWAS Commission to prepare a Memorandum on the above agreed proposal to be presented to the Heads of State of the five (5) countries during the next Summit of ECOWAS Heads of States and Government in July in Accra, Ghana.
11. The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held in Lomé, Togolese Republic. The date will be determined after the decisions of the Heads of State and Government Summit in Accra, Ghana in July 2014.
12. Finally, the meeting of the Steering Committee expressed its deep gratitude to **His Excellency Dr. Boni YAYI, President of the Republic of Benin** for the warm welcome and genuine African hospitality that was shown to them during their stay in Cotonou. The Ministers also expressed their congratulations to the Government and people of Benin on the successful organization of the meeting.

**Done at Cotonou, this day June 30, 2014**

**For the Steering Committee  
The Chairman**



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**Arc. Mike ONOLEMEMEN**

