

AFRICA TASK FORCE (GTA) REPORT

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International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users
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INTRODUCTION

As part of FISUEL's activities, some working groups have been constituted per continent, with the purpose of facilitating interactions and meetings among members in their specific environments.

These meetings constitute a framework for exchanging experiences and also mutualizing knowledge in order to address electrical safety related issues.

The Africa Task Force (GTA for "Groupe de Travail Afrique") has **8** members including:

- LBTP-SECUREL
- ARSEL
- CONSUELEC
- CONTRELEC
- PROQUELEC
- SIEIN
- TECHNOLOGIE ZENTRUM
- FENELEC

I - OBJECTIVES

GTA's members meet each year on a rotation basis, in one of their respective countries of residence, with electricity sector players. A meeting may be held in a nonmember organization's country, depending on its interest in FISUEL's activities for a future membership purpose. The main objective of these meetings is to create, promote, sustain and improve relationship between experts and particularly to share experiences and best practices regarding electrical safety. These days should allow the authorities of countries without any inspection system to be aware of the emergency of getting one, and above all to make it mandatory to control the electrical installations, before their first power-up.

These exchanges should also enable participants to mutualize their efforts in the fight against electrical material counterfeiting.

II - ACTIVITIES

The Cotonou meeting has been GTA's main activity this year. CONTRELEC which made its comeback at FISUEL in 2014 has been selected to host the GTA 2017.

For the record, there is a new Managing Director at the head of CONTRELEC namely Mr. SAIZONOU Mohamed Masmoudi who is replacing Mr. Clément Bill AKOUEDENOUDJE

The Cotonou GTA took place from March 13th to March 14th 2017 at “ BENIN ROYAL HOTEL”

The following milestones were covered during this two days event at Cotonou:

1. **THE OPENING CEREMONY** presided by His Excellence (H.E.) **LA Dona Jean-Claude HOUSSOU, Minister of Energy, Mines and Water of Benin;**
2. **THE FORUM** was about the general thematic , « ***ELECTRICITY USERS SAFETY IN GTA'S MEMBER STATES: CURRENT SITUATION AND PROSPECTS***».
3. **THE TECHNICAL MEETING** of GTA's members through three panels targeted the consideration of these three (3) issues:

- a. The review of recommendations of the Ordinary General Assembly last session held in Marrakech (Morocco) in 2016.**
- b. The review of the following pending concerns:**
 - The operationalization of the Memorandum of understanding signed since May 2016 between the Korean Electric Safety Corporation (KESCO) and the GTA.
 - The reinforcement of the convention between PROMOTELEC and GTA.
 - The Africa candidacy for the FISUEL Ordinary General Assembly organization in 2018.

- FISUEL's Bureau of the Board renewal and the challenges for GTA.



c. Review of the final terms for Bali symposium and GTA's contribution

1. THE OPENING CEREMONY

It has been presided by His Excellence (H.E.) **Dona Jean-Claude HOUSSOU**,
Minister of Energy, Mines and Water of Benin;

As part of the organization of a GTA, it is the first time that a minister of the hosting country participates to the event. That illustrates the importance placed by the Beninese government to electrical safety problematic.

CONTRELEC, particularly its Managing Director has to be congratulated for this initiative.

The absence of FENELEC at this ceremony has been noted by its peers.

2. THE FORUM

It was about the general thematic: « ***ELECTRICITY USERS SAFETY IN GTA'S MEMBER STATES: CURRENT SITUATION AND PROSPECTS***».

All the attending GTA's members made a communication on the topic.

The communications enabled participants to be informed on the current situation of the policy led in the regulatory framework, instituting the respect of electrical specification in accordance with each member country's requirements.

3. GTA' S TECHNICAL MEETING

The topics proposed for being examined were grouped into three panels as per the agenda agreed.

PANEL 1 :

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LAST SESSION HELD IN MARRAKECH (MOROCCO) IN 2016 :**
**EXECUTION REPORT, GTA SPECIFIC PROBLEMS AND PROPOSED
SOLUTIONS**

- ❑ **The development of a data collection strategy for electrical accidents assigned to GTA.**

Mr. Benoit Dôme committed to deliver an information collection template.

- ❑ **Assign to GTA the task of leading a plea towards governments and sub-regional organizations in order to generalize the mandatory control of electrical equipment and installations**
- ❑ **Set up electrical equipment quality control infrastructures in countries.**

Establishment of an ad hoc committee to contact sub-regions competent authorities (UEMOA and CEMAC) in order to propose strategies and mechanisms of fights against counterfeit electrical materials.

- ❑ **Encourage States to strengthen distribution networks and to facilitate social connections.**
- ❑ **Promote support initiatives for network extension and connections in peri-urban areas.**

Both of these issues will be covered at the next GTA due to their complexity to influence decision makers.

PANEL 2 :

REVIEW OF GTA IMPORTANT CONCERNS

- ❑ THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED SINCE MAY 2016 BETWEEN THE KOREAN ELECTRIC SAFETY CORPORATION (KESCO) AND THE GTA.
GTA should submit to KESCO the approved training modules. A meeting is scheduled for this purpose on the fringes of the Bali OGA.

- ❑ THE REINFORCEMENT OF THE CONVENTION BETWEEN PROMOTELEC AND GTA.
GTA should contact the Director of PROMOTELEC in Bali in order to make the convention more dynamic.

- ❑ AFRICA'S CANDIDACY FOR ORGANIZING FISUEL ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY (OGA) IN 2018
Côte d'Ivoire and Benin are candidates for hosting the 2018 OGA.

PANEL 3 :

❑ **REVIEW OF THE FINAL TERMS FOR BALI SYMPOSIUM AND GTA'S CONTRIBUTION**

If the schedule allows, Côte d'Ivoire will propose to deliver a presentation on the topic: « Electricity program for all » ;

NB : Each presentation should be a significant contribution of GTA to the Bali Symposium through its content.

CONCLUSION

At the end of the 2017 GTA organized in Cotonou, it appears that:

This experiences exchange meeting has been rewarding for FISUEL GTA's members and above all for the electricity sector players.

Moreover, CONTRELEC, as the GTA's hosting country Regulator, has been commended for its ability to mobilize the resources necessary for the successful organization of these meetings.

GTA's members were received in audience by Mr. Dona Jean-Claude HOUSSOU, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Benin.

They took this opportunity to express their deep gratitude to the Beninese ministerial authority, and through it, all the Government of Benin led by its Chief, President Patrice TALON.

Two important resolutions of the Cotonou meeting were presented to the Minister.

- ❖ The first is related to the promotion of the intended training as part of the convention with the South Korean group **Korean Electric Security Corporation (KESCO)**.
- ❖ The second is about the electrical security problematic and the respect of the electrical installations security standards by the economic integration sub-regional and regional institutions such as UEMOA, CEMAC,... to establish a community integrated mechanism for the fight against non-compliant electrical materials, of poor quality, and often from counterfeiting and smuggling; But also for a strategy and common actions for monitoring the internal market in these community spaces.

The Minister welcomed these initiatives and gave the assurance of his commitment to provide all the necessary support. He asked the Managing Director of CONTRELEC to make concrete initiatives propositions to the UEMOA Energy Commission President; to envisage, if necessary some top-level meetings with authorities and competent structures in order to achieve this objective that is extremely important to him.



Symposium Fisuel – Indonésie – 10 & 11 Mai 2017
Fisuel Symposium – Indonesia – 10th & 11th of May, 2017



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THANK YOU

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