Open Skies for Africa

Implementing the Yamoussoukro Decision

Charles E. Schlumberger

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This book is dedicated to the many African men and women who, every day, fulfill their duties as pilots and flight attendants to the best of their abilities to ensure safe air travel, while sometimes facing difficult and exceptional challenges.

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Foreword

It gives me much pleasure to write this foreword for the publication of Dr. Charles E. Schlumberger's research on the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision. Dr. Schlumberger, a scholar and professional who has made a significant contribution to civil aviation in Africa through his position at the World Bank, has written a penetrating book on a subject that profoundly affects African aviation, addressing numerous issues and providing an impressive spectrum of facts and creative thoughts on the Decision's current and future relevance.

Dr. Schlumberger analyzes in depth the major elements and objectives of the Yamoussoukro Declaration, adopted by the African Union states in 1999, which calls for gradual transition toward the multiple designation of airlines; the free grant of third, fourth, and fifth freedom traffic rights; no regulation of capacity and tariffs; and complete liberalization of non-scheduled and air cargo operations. He discusses the relationship between the Declaration and the Yamoussoukro Decision, explaining the enduring relationship between the two documents and ensuring a credible link between them.

Dr. Schlumberger goes on to discuss conditions and requirements for implementation of the Decision on a regional basis against the backdrop of liberalization of air services in Africa. He concludes with several policy

recommendations for the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision within a robust and sustained safety and security oversight regime.

Many of the subjects treated in this work require a mastery of multiple disciplines such as law, economics, and management, all of which have required the application of the range of Dr. Schlumberger's knowledge to the depths of his curiosity. This comprehensive survey of the field by an able scholar and competent professional, whose specialization in African aviation has already earned him considerable attention, will be a leading contribution to the literature on the subject and will promote a better understanding of the manner in which the problems attendant on civil aviation in Africa can be addressed and overcome.

I commend this book to all those who are interested in aviation in Africa and wish it the success it deserves.

Raymond Benjamin
Secretary General
International Civil Aviation Organization

Acknowledgments

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About the Author

Charles E. Schlumberger is the principal air transport specialist of the World Bank in Washington, DC. In this function he is responsible for the Bank's policy and development priorities in the field of air transportation. Prior to his appointment to the World Bank he held the position of vice president at the Union Bank of Switzerland, was the chief executive officer of the Steinbeck Global Logistics Group in France, and has worked as a lawyer on aviation-related matters in Switzerland. Schlumberger holds a law degree from Basel Law School in Switzerland, an MBA from Harvard Business School in the United States, and a doctorate in civil law from the Institute of Air and Space Law of McGill University in Canada.

Abbreviations

AEC	African Economic Community
AFCAC	African Civil Aviation Commission
AFRAA	African Airlines Association
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
BAG	Banjul Accord Group
CEMAC	Communauté Économique et Monétaire de l'Afrique Centrale (Central African Economic and Monetary Community)
CFA	Communauté Financière Africaine
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COSCAP	Cooperative Development of Operational Safety and Continued Airworthiness Program
EAC	East African Community
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration (United States)
GDP	gross domestic product
IATA	International Air Transport Association
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
km	kilometer

MASA	Multilateral Air Services Agreement
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
PTA	Preferential Trade Area
REC	regional economic community
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SARP	standards and recommended practices
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WAMU	West African Monetary Union