4th edition of the International Symposium on Transport and Logistics in Africa
TRANSLOG AFRICA 2024
Ouagadougou, from 27 to 29 February 2024

RECOMMENDATION 1

On the committee for monitoring the implementation of recommendations and the themes.

Participants in the fourth (4th) edition of Translog Africa;

Considering the difficulties and shortcomings in the implementation of the recommendations of previous editions of Translog Africa;

RECOMMEND

That the Burkina Shippers' Council:

a) sets up a committee to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of Translog Africa 2024 as follows:

- Burkina Shippers' Council (CBC);
- Union of African Shippers' Councils (UASC);
- Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA);
- Association of African Shipping Lines (ANSL)

These structures will respectively report on the implementation of the recommendations made during the various editions.

b) organises the work in thematic workshops, in addition to plenary sessions;

c) takes account of infrastructure and air transport issues.

Done in Ouagadougou, this 29th day of February 2024

The Symposium

Burkina Shippers' Council– Directorate General - 01 BP 1771 OUAGADOUGOU 01 - Tel.: +226 25 30 62 11 /12
Fax: +226 25 31 18 15 -E-mail: cbc@cbc.bf - Web: www.cbcbf.org / www.translogafrica.bf

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RECOMMENDATION 2

On taxes levied on goods in transit.

Participants in the fourth (4th) edition of Translog Africa;

- Noting the worrying practice of imposing undue taxes (VAT, transit taxes, municipal taxes, etc.) on goods in transit through certain ports in the sub-region;
- Considering that this practice, which is contrary to sub-regional and international conventions on transit trade for landlocked countries, considerably adds to the cost of transporting goods from these countries;

RECOMMEND

That UASC, ports and PMAWCA carry out investigations to list the various charges, taxes and fees applied to goods in transit in coastal countries and identify actions to be taken with the competent authorities of the said countries with a view to putting an end to undue payments.

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RECOMMENDATION 3

On port charges and surcharges applied by shipping companies.

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

Considering the multiplicity of often unjustified port taxes and surcharges applied by shipping companies, which result in a significant increase in freight costs;

RECOMMEND

That MOWCA, UASC, PMAWCA and the Association of African Shipping Lines (ANSL) take action towards the Shipping Companies and the competent Authorities of the sub-region so that only working days are taken into account in counting free time for the calculation of demurrage.

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RECOMMENDATION 4

On compliance with regulations on interstate transport.

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

- Considering the relevant provisions of WAEMU Regulation No. 14 on the control of axle loads, weights and dimensions of vehicles;
- Considering the negative impact of this practice on our road infrastructure in terms of reduced service life and increased transport costs;
- Considering the importance of the Electronic Cargo Tracking Note (ECTN) for compiling statistics on transport and international trade;
- Considering the extent of the losses suffered by shippers in the transport of their cargoes;

RECOMMEND

That shippers and carriers comply with international transport regulations, in particular those relating to the introduction of the ECTN for all cargo, regulations on dimensions and axle loads, and take out door-to-door insurance policies.

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RECOMMENDATION 5

On port passage costs.

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

- Noting that several ports in the sub-region have undertaken major efforts to improve port infrastructures and facilities;
- Noting that, despite this, the costs of handling containers and other logistics services in the said ports have not fallen, and are in fact rising;
- Noting therefore that the productivity gains achieved by the private concessionaires in charge of container handling in the said ports do not benefit the shipper and the final consumer in our countries, contrary to what is happening in European and Asian countries;

RECOMMEND

That ports and PMAWCA undertake reforms aimed at improving the costs and times of port passage, pre- and post-inland haulage operations and container transfer times from quays to collection platforms;

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RECOMMENDATION 6

On ownership of the AfCFTA agreement by international transport stakeholders.

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

- Considering the advantages and opportunities linked to the implementation of the AfCFTA in relation to transport and logistics;
- Considering the need to build the capacities of players in the transport chain;

RECOMMEND

That Customs administrations and shippers' councils invest in training players in the transport chain and raising awareness of customs innovations in the context of the AfCFTA, and eventually consider a AfCFTA training certificate;

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RECOMMENDATION 7

On running transport observatories

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

- Considering the importance of information for optimising transport operations;
- Considering the role of statistical data in formulating transport policies;

RECOMMEND

That shippers' councils revitalise and run transport observatories with a view to making information on transport and international trade available to all players.

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RECOMMENDATION 8

On promoting the transport of hydrocarbons by pipeline.

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

- Considering the need to secure the transport of petroleum products;
- Noting the benefits and advantages of transporting petroleum products by pipeline;
- Considering, however, the low use of this mode of transport;

RECOMMEND

That States and sub-regional organisations develop pipelines for the transport of hydrocarbons;

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RECOMMENDATION 9

On promoting rail transport

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

Considering the undeniable importance of railways in the development of transport systems;

Considering the various advantages of this mode of transport, particularly in terms of massification;

RECOMMEND

That States and sub-regional organisations show greater political will in mobilising the resources needed to promote rail transport in Africa;

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RECOMMENDATION 10

On promoting the use of containers.

Participants in the fourth edition of Translog Africa;

Considering the advantages of end-to-end use of the container;

Noting the high cost of using this tool in Africa;

RECOMMEND

That States, sub-regional organisations, and economic operators create container production units in Africa.

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