The role of aviation in Africa’s economic development

- Development of national economies is closely tied to the efficiency of the transport system;
- Transport systems in most parts of Africa are often inadequate or completely lacking;
- Air transport infrastructure is the relatively low-cost means of transport that can be developed in a very short time;
- Infrastructure, alone, has a limited contribution to economic and social developments.
The role of aviation in Africa’s economic development

- Aviation is about more than moving people, cargo and mail;
- It is also about access to the market;
- It is the most reliable means of transport between:
  - Africa and the rest of the world;
  - African regions and sub-regions;
  - African States; and within national boundaries
- Maintained in a safe and efficient manner, it can effectively contribute to national economies and enhance regional and national cooperation.

However !!!!

African aviation could not develop and contribute to national economies as would be expected:

- Level of activity – too low to generate the necessary funds although the potential is there;
- Widespread negative perception of African aviation safety and efficiency;
- Lack of adequate investment in aviation safety and air transport services.
However !!!!!

- Although Africa:
  - is the second largest continent,
  - is home to over 17 percent of the world population,
  - has the least developed surface transport system;
- Has a share of less than 3% of the global aviation activity market;
- Number of accidents is low, but accident rate is used to measure its safety level.

Findings of ICAO safety oversight audits

- Lack of effective implementation of the critical elements is higher in the AFI Region than in any other part of the world:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Audit</th>
<th>AFI Region</th>
<th>Rest of the World</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial (42 States)</td>
<td>48.2%</td>
<td>27.9% (139 States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow-up</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSA (31 States)</td>
<td>62.4%</td>
<td>34.2% (64 States)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What we already know!

- On the average, level of implementation of SARPs is lower in Africa when compared to other regions;
- This has been recognized before safety oversight became a household phrase in aviation;
- The objective was to measure the level of non-implementation with the aim of assisting African States to implement SARPs and meet international obligations (SARPs implementation).

What we have learned

- Yes, we have implementation problems in Africa;
- African States have submitted to the audits, but expected assistance was minimal;
- It is not only about political will;
- To address the problem, we need to look beyond:
  - safety oversight and operational safety audits,
  - rectification of identified deficiencies, and
  - resolutions and declarations;
- African States need to work together to build the required capability.
ICAO’s New Approach
A safety implementation plan for Africa

- Need for a specific Plan for Africa:
  - Sustainable improvement of flight safety in the AFI Region required ICAO to exert increased leadership in civil aviation safety in the AFI Region;
  - The shift of ICAO’s focus from the development of SARPs to a broader focus centring on SARPs implementation required a shift in strategy;
  - The establishment of a Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa, endorsed by all stakeholders, is seen as a way forward.

A safety implementation plan for Africa: Achieving the objectives

- Meeting the directives of Assembly Resolution A36-1 and achieving the ultimate objective would require that:
  - States and Regional Organizations in the AFI Region be actively engaged and commit to cooperate to achieve the Programme’s objectives;
  - Existing regional cooperation be strengthened through the establishment of RSOOs;
  - Industry and donors do commit to cooperate with the Programme in supporting implementation of priority projects;
  - Contracting States, industry and donors commit to undertake projects that address the priorities identified; and
  - ICAO integrate the capabilities and resources available at HQ with that available at Regional Offices, Contracting States and Industry partners.
A safety implementation plan for Africa

Achieving the objectives

- This calls for the identification of the obstacles and prioritizing solutions;
- A gap-analysis, as resolved by the Assembly (Resolution A/36-1) is one important tool to enable the identification of priorities;
- The Global Aviation Safety Plan and the Roadmap have been recognized as the best tools in this effort and adopted by ICAO and its ACIP Programme;
- Thus the reason for conducting the GASR workshops in Africa, in cooperation with ISSG.

The ACIP work plan

- Highlights three areas of focus and proposes a concerted effort in those three areas of focus:
  - *Enabling States to establish and maintain a sustainable safety oversight system* (infra-structure and capacity building);
  - *Assisting States to resolve identified deficiencies within a reasonable time*; and
  - *Enhancing aviation safety culture of African aviation service providers.*
A safety implementation plan for Africa
The ACIP work plan

*Enabling States to establish and maintain a sustainable safety oversight system:*
  - Cooperates and coordinates with all stakeholders;
  - Support the establishment of Regional Safety Oversight Organizations on the basis of existing platforms and regional organizations;
  - Global Aviation Safety Roadmap workshops, leading to the conduct of detailed gap-analysis
  - Develop recommendations and prioritize action leading to an effective and sustainable solution.

*Assisting States to resolve identified deficiencies within a reasonable time:*
  - Promote and encourage a regional cooperation based on existing regional platforms such as the COSCAPs and CASSOA
  - A short-term solution - the ultimate goal is to enable States to develop and maintain an effective safety oversight system
  - Promote and facilitate cooperation among African aviation training centres
A safety implementation plan for Africa
The ACIP work plan

- **Enhancing aviation safety culture of African aviation service providers:**
  - Close cooperation with the aviation industry;
  - Currently developing a template and guidance material for States to develop and maintain a State Safety Programme (SSP);
  - A programme of aviation safety seminars, workshops, and courses.

- **Follow-up to the GASR workshops:**
  - Conduct of detailed gap-analysis based on the GASR methodology;
  - Compile the findings and recommendations derived;
  - Prioritize action plan in cooperation with States and stakeholders;
  - Implementation and follow-up.
Seminars and workshops planned for 2008:
- A three-day seminar/workshop on State Safety Programme (SSP) focused at regulators, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 24-26 September;
- Safety Management System (SMS) course directed at Safety Officers from industry and civil aviation authorities including safety teams from regional organizations – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 29 Sep. to 3 October.
A safety implementation plan for Africa
The ACIP work plan

- **Seminars and workshops planned for 2009:**
  - A one-day seminar, in French, focused at high-level decision makers of civil aviation authorities and the African aviation industry (airlines, airports, air traffic management, etc.) – Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, February;
  - A three-day seminar/workshop on State Safety Programme (SSP) focused at regulators – Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, February;
  - Safety Management System (SMS) course directed at Safety Officers from industry and civil aviation authorities including safety teams from regional organizations – Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, February;
  - Two each (SSP/SMS) seminar/workshops and/or courses, in English and French, to be held in various African States in 2009;
A safety implementation plan for Africa: The ACIP work plan

Seminars and workshops planned for 2009:

- Additional seminar/workshops (in English and French) on specific safety-related subjects to be held in 2009:
  - Licensing, Flight operations and cabin safety;
  - Aircraft certification and airworthiness;
  - Air traffic management and ground operations;
  - Accident prevention and investigation;
  - Transport of dangerous goods by air;
  - Aviation medicine.

A safety implementation plan for Africa: Investing in aviation safety

- Over the last 50 years, African governments have subsidized civil aviation; investing mostly on personnel training and in infrastructure:
  - Infrastructures require maintenance and upgrading,
  - Retaining qualified and experienced personnel has proved to be a major problem;
- Investment on equipment for aviation services has also been significant:
  - Support for infrastructure and equipment is not lacking,
  - Ensures African and foreign operators adequate services at African destinations.
A safety implementation plan for Africa
Investing in aviation safety

- However, investment on safety has been minimal:
  - Capability to establish and manage an effective safety oversight system is minimal,
  - A perception that African airlines are not safe, although a number of them have a better safety record than their competitors outside the continent, is widespread and continues to persist even when improvements have been registered;
  - No economic development of a State, sub-region, or region can be realized without the development of a safe, efficient and effective transport system.

- In Africa, air transport remains to be the most effective transport and communication system;
- We should continue to invest on infrastructure and equipment, but we also need to invest on safety by:
  - Promoting the establishment of effective and sustainable safety oversight systems,
  - Closer cooperation through the establishment of Regional Safety Oversight Organizations,
  - Supporting aviation service providers (airlines, airports and air traffic service providers) to develop and maintain “just culture” as a core business policy and activity.
Bold initiative by African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

- Report of the Committee of Experts (Addis Ababa, 26 to 30 March 2008);
  - The Committee made a number of observations and comments aimed at improving the submission. It was observed that transport remained a major challenge to Africa’s development, in particular, air transport services and safety within the continent need urgent improvement. In that regard, the Committee underscored the need to address aviation safety and to involve not only Ministers responsible for transport, but also those of Finance and Economic Planning.

- Recommendation adopted by the Joint Meeting of the Ministers (Addis Ababa, 31 March to 2 April);
  - ECA should assist African Countries in improving their transport system, including air transport services and safety; and
  - In addition to African Ministers responsible for Transport, those of Finance and Economic Planning should also be involved in transport development on the continent.
It is time to ACT

- In the last few decades, we have met, Discussed, Resolved, Declared and Decided on aviation matters;
- It is now **Time to ACT** and give effect to the Resolutions, Declarations and Decisions;
- **There is no better day than today** to act and reverse the perceptions held over the safety and efficiency of the African air transport system;
- What is required is a sustainable commitment on the part of regulators and the industry.

It is time to ACT

IT IS UP TO US – THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THIS BEAUTIFUL CONTINENT – TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED IN CIVIL AVIATION DISCIPLINES, TO ACT AND HELP OUR GOVERNMENTS TO ACT IN THE INTEREST AND BENEFIT OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE.

**IF NOT US, WHO?**
**IF NOT TODAY, WHEN?**
AFI Comprehensive Implementation Programme (ACIP)

Thank you