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国际民用
航空组织

Eastern and Southern African Regional Office/Bureau régional Afrique orientale et australe

Ref.: ES AN 4/0 - 0352

6 August 2026

Subject: 2nd AFI User Preferred Routes Trial Team workshop and the Free Route Airspace (FRA) Project Management Team (PMT) Meeting – (Dar es Salaam – Tanzania, 21 – 24 September 2026)

Action required: Please confirm your participation preferably by 7 September 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to APIRG/22 Conclusion 22/36 on the implementation of the AFI Free Route Airspace (FRA), as well as APIRG/26 Conclusion 26/09 encouraging States to support User Preferred Routes (UPR) trials in furtherance of FRA implementation within the AFI airspace.

In support of these conclusions and following the successful conduct of the 1st AFI UPR Trials Workshop, held from 21 to 22 May 2026 in Johannesburg, South Africa, the ICAO Eastern and Southern African (ESAF) Regional Office will convene the 2nd AFI User Preferred Routes Trials Workshop, together with the Free Route Airspace Project Management Team Meeting in collaboration with the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority and AFRAA, from 21 to 24 September 2026 in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania. It is my pleasure to extend an invitation to your State, Organization or Airline to participate in this important event.

The first two days of the workshop will focus on FRA implementation in the ESAF Region. Participants will review State/FIR progress, identify priority East and South Cluster cross-border corridors, resolve airspace design and publication issues, and agree on practical interfaces with Performance-based Navigation (PBN), Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA), ATM contingency planning, Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM), System Wide Information Management (SWIM) and Flight and Flow Information for a Collaborative Environment (FF-ICE). The workshop will also define requirements for a regional FRA/UPR coordination platform.

The last two days will be dedicated to the UPR workstream. Participants will review the results of the phased trials initiated following the Johannesburg workshop, review the proposed ESAF UPR catalogue route by route, agree conditions of use and outstanding actions, and develop a roadmap for transition to regular operations, including a proposed effective date.

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The target participants for the workshop are representatives from participating airlines and technical experts involved in the implementation of FRA and UPR at regional and State levels, as well as the members of the Free Route Airspace (FRA) Project Management Team (PMT). Participating States, Airlines and Organizations are kindly requested to cover travel and accommodation costs for their respective delegates.

Kindly confirm your participation to the ESAF Regional Office at icaoesaf@icao.int with a copy to Mr. Serge Tchanda (stchanda@icao.int) and Dr. Bedan Thendu (bthendu@icao.int), Regional Officers, Air Traffic Management/Search and Rescue, at the WACAF and ESAF Offices respectively, preferably by **7 September 2026**.

Yours sincerely,



Lucy Mbugua
Regional Director

Attachment:

- List of UPR/FRA Stakeholders and FRA PMT Members