



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AFI AVIATION WEEK EVENTS – ELEVENTH EDITION *Cairo, Egypt, 27 - 31 July 2026*

THE AFI AVIATION SYMPOSIUM *Cairo, Egypt, 28 - 30 July 2026*

WORK PROGRAMME

Tuesday 28 July 2026 - The AFI Aviation Symposium Opening Session - Remarks		
09:30-10:00	1. Secretary General, AFCAC 2. ICAO Secretary General 3. Minister of Civil Aviation, Egypt	
Session 1 - Strategic Dialogue - From AFI Week 10 to AFI Week 11: Aligning AFI Priorities with ICAO's Strategic Goals		
10:00-11:30	• Moderator: Ms. Lucy Mbugua, Regional Director, ICAO ESAF • Rapporteur: Mr. Richard Gatete, Deputy Regional Director, ICAO ESAF Sequence: • Key developments since AFI Week 10 • Consider the strategic priorities and guidance emerging from AFI-DGCA/11 • Panel session: Objectives: Discuss the alignment of AFI regional priorities with ICAO's long-term strategic direction	Panellists 1. Mr. Mario Gomes, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Cabo verde Civil Aviation Authority 2. Mr. Luvuyo Gqeke, Representative of South Africa to the ICAO Council 3. Mr. Mohamed Rahma, Director, Air Transport Bureau, ICAO 4. Mrs Michele Merkle, Director Air Navigation Bureau, ICAO 5. Mr. Fabio Rabbani, Director, Capacity Development and Implementation, ICAO 6. Mr. Romain Ekoto, Regional Director, ICAO WACAF

		Expected Outputs: • Shared understanding of progress achieved and remaining gaps since AFI Week 10; • Enhanced alignment between AFI regional priorities and ICAO strategic goals; • Identification of priority implementation areas for 2026–2027; • Strategic framing for subsequent Symposium discussions
11:30-12:00	Tea/Coffee Break	
Session 2 – From Lomé Expo to ATConf/7: Consolidating AFI Priorities and Advancing a Coordinated Regional Perspective		
12:00-13:30	1. Moderator: Ms. Poppy Khoza, Director General, SACAA, South Africa 2. Rapporteur : Mr. Eyob Estifanos, Regional Officer Air Transport. Development/Implementation Support, ICAO ESAF Objectives: • Consider key aviation priorities emerging from regional discussions, including the AFCAC Lomé Conference and Expo; • Discuss coordinated Africa inputs and strategic considerations in preparation for ATConf/7; • Identify areas requiring enhanced regional coordination and stakeholder engagement and practical follow-up after ATConf/7.	Panellists 1. Colonel Idrissou Ahadou Abdou, Director General, Togo Civil Aviation Authority 2. Ms. Adefunke Adeyemi, Secretary General, AFCAC 3. Mr. Abdérahmane Berthe, Secretary General, AFRAA 4. Mr. Kamil Al-Awadhi, Regional Vice President, Africa and the Middle East, IATA 5. Mr. Mohamed Khalifa Rahma, Director, Air Transport Bureau, ICAO 6. Mrs. Hiwot Deressa, Representative of Ethiopia to ICAO. Expected Outputs: • Identification of key Africa priorities and areas of convergence for ATConf/7; • Enhanced coordination between regional and international aviation policy initiatives; • Preliminary elements supporting a coherent African contribution to ATConf/7 discussions; • Identification of issues requiring further regional coordination in support of connectivity, market development and efficient mobility.

13:30-14:30	Lunch Break	
Session 3 - Advancing API/PNR Implementation in AFI: Overcoming Barriers and Accelerating Compliance		
14:30-16:00	1. Moderator: Mr. Ali Tounsi, Secretary General, ACI Africa 2. Rapporteur: Mr. Oladele Ademola, Regional Officer, AVSEC/FAL, ICAO WACAF Objectives: Review the status of API/PNR implementation in the AFI region; Identify key legal, operational, technical and institutional barriers; Discuss practical approaches to accelerate implementation and compliance.	Panellists 1. Ms. Hifdi Sonia, Deputy Director, Aviation Security, Cybersecurity and Facilitation 2. Ms. Maureen Kahonge, Director Commercial & Communications, AFRAA 3. Mr. Banakinao Wiyao, Director, Security and Facilitation, Civil Aviation Authority, Togo 4. Mr. Nzakimuena Manuel, Director of DNA-BT, Directorate of Air Navigation and Technical Library, Angola 5. Mr. Joel Ntwali Rukazambuga, Director of Aviation Infrastructure, Safety and Security, Rwanda 6. Mr. Jamel Dridi, Aviation Security & Facilitation Expert, AFCAC Expected Outputs: Improved understanding of key implementation challenges; Identification of priority actions to accelerate API/PNR implementation; Identification of partnership and capacity-building needs; Recommendations to support enhanced regional coordination.
Session 4 - Mitigating GNSS Vulnerabilities in AFI: Practical Measures for Resilience and Risk Management		
16:00-17:30	1. Moderator: Ms. Joyce Asante, Director Air Traffic Safety Engineering. Ghana Civil Aviation Authority 2. Rapporteur : Mr. Lekamisy Harvey Gabriel, Regional Officer CNS, ICAO ESAF Objectives:	Panellists 1. Mrs. Lindi-Lee Kirkman, Regional Head ATM CNS, Africa & Middle East Operations Safety and Security, IATA 2. Mr. Patrick N. Njeru, Assistant Director Engineering services, Kenya Civil Aviation Authority

	- Review emerging threats related to GNSS jamming and spoofing; - Highlight the implications for aviation safety and air navigation; - Discuss practical mitigation, contingency, resilience measures and coordination measures consistent with the ICAO GNSS RFI roadmap and the A42-8/c resolution.	- Ms. Coleen Hawrysko, Director, Africa Europe Middle East, FAA/Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Transportation - Dr. Alaa Alturki, Engineering Services Executive Director, Saudi Air Navigation Services (SANS) - Mr. Koné Sidi, Director of Air Navigation Operations, ASECNA Expected Outputs: - Shared understanding of GNSS-related vulnerabilities affecting the AFI region; - Identification of practical mitigation and contingency measures; - Identification of capacity-building and coordination requirements; - Recommendations to enhance regional resilience.
Wednesday 29 July 2026 - The AFI Aviation Symposium Ctd		
Session 5 - Financing Foundational Aviation Capacity in Africa: Enabling Effective Oversight and Sustainable Implementation		
09:00-10:30	Moderator: Ms. Paule Assoumou Koki, Director General CAA Cameroon Rapporteur: Mr. Aregawi Zewdu, Regional Officer, Safety Implementation, ICAO ESAF Objectives: - Identify recurrent small-scale investment gaps affecting the effectiveness of civil aviation authorities and aviation systems in Africa; - Discuss practical financing approaches supporting foundational oversight, implementation and institutional capacity; - Explore opportunities for targeted partnerships and innovative support mechanisms for smaller but high-impact aviation investments	Panellists - Mr. Mike Salawou, Director AfDB/ Mr Marco Yamaguchi, Manager AfDB - Mrs. Jailza Soraya, Executive Director, BAGASOO - Mr. Krzysztof Kędzierski, International Cooperation Officer, EASA - Dr. Mohamed Salah, Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority Vice President for Flight Safety Standardisation - Mr. Eric Ntagengerwa, African Union Commission Representative - Mr. Bernard Paul Mono, Ag. CEO, East African Development Bank Expected Outputs: - Improved understanding of foundational investment needs affecting aviation oversight and implementation; - Identification of practical financing and partnership mechanisms for small-scale aviation investments;

		- Increased awareness among partners and stakeholders of high-impact institutional capacity needs; - Recommendations supporting sustainable and targeted aviation capacity development
10:30-11:00	Tea/Coffee break	
Session 6 - Advancing Environmental Sustainability in Africa: Balancing Compliance, Capacity and Growth		
11:00-12:30	1. Moderator: Mrs. Toska Sem, Director General, Namibia Civil Aviation Authority 2. Rapporteur: Ms. Chinga Mazhetese, Regional Officer Environment/Meteorology, ICAO ESAF Objectives: - Review key environmental and sustainability challenges affecting African States, including capacity, data, technology and financing dimensions; - Discuss challenges with CORSIA CEEU and signing of LOAs - Discuss Aviation taxation for environmental purpose - Discuss practical approaches to support implementation of ICAO environmental objectives; - Explore opportunities for regional cooperation, partnerships and support mechanisms	Panellists 1. Ms Oyetoun Foluwake Adegbesan, General Manager, Air Transport Operations, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority 2. Capt. Karim Gamil, Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority Environmental Advisor 3. Mr. Denis Kimani, IATA Manager Sustainability - Africa, IATA 4. Mr. Frankline Omondi, Aviation and Environment Expert, AFCAC Expected Outputs: - Improved understanding of implementation challenges faced by African States; - Raise awareness on the necessity to sign the LOAs and liberate CORSIA Eligible Unit - Recall why CORSIA was agreed as the global measure to address CO2 emissions - Identification of pragmatic pathways toward environmental sustainability; - Identification of support, financing and partnership opportunities; - Recommendations supporting balanced and inclusive implementation approaches
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	
Session 7 - Advancing the NGAP Agenda in Africa: Building the Workforce, Skills and Innovation Capacity for the Future of Aviation		

14:00-15:30	1. Moderator: Mr. Manuel Nzakimuen, Director General, Angola Civil Aviation Authority 2. Rapporteur : Ms. Oumou Ben Geloune, Regional Officer, Air Transport Development/Implementation Support, ICAO WACAF ESAF Objectives: • Discuss in advance the implementation of the ICAO NGAP initiative in Africa; • Identify priority workforce and competency gaps affecting aviation development and transformation; • Explore innovative approaches to skills development, knowledge-sharing and talent attraction; • Consider opportunities for enhanced regional cooperation, partnerships and centres of excellence; • Recommend practical elements to be considered by the AFI Plans Steering	Panellists 1. Mr. Fabio Rabbani, Director, Capacity Development and Implementation, ICAO 2. Mrs. Toska Sem, Director General, Namibia Civil Aviation Authority 3. Ms. Margareth Josephath Kyarwenda. Secretary General, AATO 4. Ms. Coleen Hawrysko, Director, Africa Europe Middle East, FAA/Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Transportation 5. Mr. Ng Tee Chiou, Deputy Director General, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore Expected Outputs: • Improved understanding of NGAP-related challenges and opportunities in Africa aligned with ICAO’s global aviation talent development framework, Resolution A42-24 and the NGAP Call to Action; • Identification of priority workforce development and competency-building areas linked to the implementation needs of the AFI Plan, AFI SECFAL Plan and HRDF; • Practical approaches to strengthen aviation talent pipelines, innovation and knowledge-sharing including voluntary contributions, technical assistance, training seats, twinning arrangements, scholarships, mentoring networks and centres of excellence involving AFI States and interested partners from within and beyond the region; • Identification of partnership opportunities supporting sustainable workforce development.
15:30-16:30	SKYTALKS 1. Preparing for a U.S. FAA International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) Audit – <i>Mr. Glenn Wicks, Managing Director, The Wicks Group</i> 2. ICAO API/PNR Implementation Support Programme - <i>Ms. Hifdi Sonia, Deputy Director, Aviation Security, Cybersecurity and Facilitation, ICAO</i>	

3. ICAO BUY – *Mr. Mekki Lahlou, Resource Mobilization Officer, ICAO*

Thursday 30 July 2026 - The AFI Aviation Symposium Ctd/End

Closing Session - Consolidating Outcomes and Defining Next Steps for African Aviation Development

**10:00 –
12:00**

Moderator: Mrs. Reem Oraby, Egypt Alternate Representative to the ICAO Council / Mr. Romain Ekoto, Regional Director, ICAO WACAF

Items to be covered:

- Outcomes of the AFI-DGCA/11 Meeting;
- Outcomes of the AFI Aviation Symposium;
- Outcomes of the AFI Plans Steering Committee Meeting;
- Identification of priority follow-up actions and coordination mechanisms;
- Strategic considerations and next steps for implementation.

Objectives:

- Present and consolidate the main outcomes and recommendations emerging from the different AFI Week events;
- Highlight areas of convergence and priority actions for the AFI region;
- Reinforce alignment between regional initiatives, AFI Plans and ICAO strategic objectives;
- Identify key implementation and coordination priorities moving forward.

Expected Outputs:

- Consolidated summary of key outcomes and recommendations from AFI Week 2026;
- Identification of priority regional actions and implementation areas for 2026–2027;
- Enhanced alignment between AFI regional initiatives and ICAO strategic objectives;
- Agreed strategic orientations and follow-up considerations for stakeholders and partners.