



International  
Civil Aviation  
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منظمة الطيران  
المدني الدولي

国际民用  
航空组织

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

Ref: ES AN 3/24 - 0492

1 August 2016

Hon. Dipuo Elizabeth Peters, MP  
Minister of Transport  
Private Bag X193  
Pretoria 0001, South Africa  
Email: [MulangaL@dot.gov.za](mailto:MulangaL@dot.gov.za)

**Subject: Launching of Assistance to Certification of Aerodromes Project in the ESAF Region, Nairobi, Kenya, 22 - 26 August 2016**

**Action Required: To reply, preferably not later than 7 August 2016**

Honorable Minister,

I have the honour to refer to the Ministerial Conference on Aviation Safety in Africa that was held in Abuja, Nigeria, in July 2012, during which, specific and measurable aviation safety targets were established in order to enhance safety standards in the region. You may recall that one of the safety targets is for States to **certify all International Aerodromes by the end of December 2015**. Furthermore, provisions in Annex 14 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation as well as other relevant ICAO guidance documentation require each contracting State to certify aerodromes used for international operations through an appropriate regulatory framework.

However, the Sixteenth meeting of the AFI Plan Steering Committee (Montreal, Canada, November 2015), the Twentieth Meeting of the APIRG (Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, November / December 2015) and the Third meeting of the RASG-AFI (Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, December 2015) raised great concerns over the low rate in certification of aerodromes and the failure to meet the Abuja safety target (Only about 23% of international aerodromes have been certified so far by States in the entire AFI Region). It was therefore agreed that, at least 45% of international aerodromes be certified by the end of 2016.

Consequently, the AFI Plan Steering committee approved a specific technical Assistance project for the certification of at least one international aerodrome in each of eight ESAF States, of Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia as a matter of priority. Furthermore South Africa has been proposed to be part of the nuclear champion States to provide expertise and actively participate in the implementation of the above mentioned project.

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In this regard, a consultative meeting to launch the project is scheduled to take place on **22 August 2016**. The launch will be followed by a workshop for national aerodrome inspectors and operator's technical staff from **23 to 26 August 2016**. The two events will be held back to back at the ICAO Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya.

I wish to underscore that the success of this Project depends on the commitment at the highest level of the beneficiary States, signified by the participation of the Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority, the CEO of the Airport Operator and the CEO of the Air Navigation Services Provider to the one-day consultative/ project launch meeting. I also request the release of SA officials Mr. Nelson Nkabiti from the SACAA and Mr. Kenton Sim of ACSA to participate to the workshop and future activities where they may be required to assist.

To facilitate necessary planning and preparations for the meeting, it would be appreciated if you could, at your earliest convenience, preferably not later than **7 August 2016**, confirm the participation of your State and details of your nominees to this event by forwarding your response to the ESAF Regional Office at [icaoesaf@icao.int](mailto:icaoesaf@icao.int) with a copy to [andikumana@icao.int](mailto:andikumana@icao.int) giving names and other details of your participants.

Accept, Honorable Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.



**Barry Kashambo**  
Regional Director

cc: Mr. Pule Godfrey Selepe  
Director General  
Department of Transport  
Email: [multilateral@dot.gov.za](mailto:multilateral@dot.gov.za)

Ms. Poppy Khoza  
Director General  
Director of Civil Aviation (SACAA)  
South Africa  
Email: [khozap@caa.co.za](mailto:khozap@caa.co.za)

Mr. Johann Bierman  
Acting Deputy Director General, SACAA  
Email: [BjernamJ@dot.gov.za](mailto:BjernamJ@dot.gov.za)

Mr. Thabani Mthiyane  
Chief Executive Officer  
Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)

Chief Executive Officer, ACSA, SA  
Email: [Ruby.gopal@airports.co.za](mailto:Ruby.gopal@airports.co.za)