



International
Civil Aviation
Organization

Organisation
de l'aviation civile
internationale

Organización
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Internacional

Международная
организация
гражданской
авиации

منظمة الطيران
المدني الدولي

国际民用
航空组织

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

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

Dear Madam,

I wish 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.

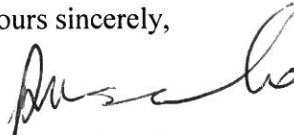
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In this regard, a consultative meeting to launch the project, to which you are invited, is scheduled to take place on **22 August 2016**. The launch will be followed by a workshop for national aerodrome inspectors and operator's technical staff from **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 Director Generals of the Civil Aviation Authority, CEO of the Airport Operators CEO of the Air Navigation Services Providers, Regional Economic Communities, Civil aviation industry partners, and Regional Safety Oversight organisations to the one-day consultative / project launch meeting. The invitation is also extended to your organization to participate to the consultative / project workshop mentioned above.

To facilitate necessary planning and preparations for the meeting, it would be appreciated if you could, at your earliest convenience, confirm the participation of your organisation and details of your nominees to this event by forwarding your response to the ESAF Regional Office at icaoesaf@icao.int with a copy to andikumana@icao.int giving names and other details of your participants.

Yours sincerely,



Barry Kashambo
Regional Director