



Robert F.O. Mwesigwa Nviiri
Executive Director CASSOA

The East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (EAC CASSOA) is an EAC Institution that was established by the Summit of the Heads of State of the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, at their 5th Extraordinary Summit on 18th June 2007 in Kampala, Uganda. Its Headquarters are in Entebbe, Uganda. The aim of CASSOA is to assist the Partner States' Civil Aviation Authorities to meet their safety and security oversight obligations as per the 1944 Chicago Convention and its Annexes.

Mr. Robert F.O. Mwesigwa Nviiri is the current and 3rd Executive Director of EAC CASSOA. He was appointed to the position on 15th August 2015 by the 32nd Council of Ministers of the EAC until 31st May 2017. He is a Soviet trained aeronautical engineer with a Master's of Science degree in aeronautical engineering having specialized in aircraft construction and exploitation.

Given the new dimensions of threats to civil aviation, as the Executive Director of the East African Community's Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA), Mr. Nviiri's focus is on the enhancement of aviation security oversight by the Partner States' Civil Aviation Authorities, the Agency having given adequate attention to civil aviation safety oversight during its first five years of operation since 2007. To that effect, he is also an alumnus of the Galilee International Management Institute, Israel, where he graduated in an IATA Aviation Security Managers course (2013) and National Security course (2015).

He believes in the importance of harmonization of civil aviation policies and regulations in order to have a safe, efficient and economical aviation industry in East Africa. His dream is to have an EAC regional airline revived, i.e. as the one time East African Airways, which would give East Africa a leverage to compete with the mega carriers that ply the regional and long haul routes connecting passengers to destinations that were once served by East African Airways in the 1960s and 1970s.

He has worked with different stakeholders in East Africa, including the Uganda government (Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Uganda Airlines),

Private Sector (East African Airlines), religious establishments and now the regional economic community - EAC.

Prior to his current position of Executive Director CASSOA, Mr. Nviiri served as the Technical Coordinator for EAC CASSOA from 1st June 2007 till 19th March 2015 - as one of the pioneer staff that operationalized the newly established EAC Institution. He served as Director Technical Services in the defunct East African Airlines (Uganda) where he was one of the pioneer staff that started and operationalized that airline in 2002. He served as the Planning Engineer in the defunct Uganda Airlines from 1995 - 2000, having first served as a line maintenance engineer for a period of one year. He served as a field officer in the World Bank/Government of Uganda Project on Social Dimensions of Adjustment which was run under the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development from 1991 - 1994. He was a technical advisor in JBK Services (EA) Ltd. from 1990 - 1991.

On the social aspect, Mr. Nviiri was a Rotarian of the Rotary Club of Kampala 2004 - 2007, and has served twice as Cathedral Treasurer for St. Paul's Cathedral Namirembe, once from 2003 till 2007 and twice from May 2014 till present.

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