



Tanja Grobotek, International Air Transport Association (IATA),

Regional Director Safety and Flight Operations (SFO) – Africa

Tanja has joined IATA in 2005. In her role as Regional Director Safety and Flight Operations – Africa, she is responsible for providing strategic direction, guidance and leadership for IATA's safety, flight operations and infrastructure activities and initiatives in Africa in close cooperation with IATA members.

Following Departure of Regional Director Middle East & North Africa (MENA), in addition to being responsible for Africa Region, from June 2015 to August 2016, Tanja has been conducting role of Regional Director SFO MENA.

Her responsibilities as an IATA Regional Director SFO include:

- Conceive, design and advocate IATA industry wide programs and represent member-airlines at International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO), relevant government agencies such as African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), Civil Aviation Authorities (CAA's), Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSP's) and Airport Authorities;
- Establish an effective "early warning" system to identify future issues which might occur within the Africa safety, operations and infrastructure domains;

Before joining IATA, she held managerial position with South African Air Navigation Service provider - ATNS as Flow Control Specialist. Her role was establishing Central Airspace Management Unit (CAMU). She had started her aviation career with Croatia Airlines, working in airline maintenance planning and had been part of selection team for fleet replacement.

Educated at Transport Science University in Croatia, she is holder of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Air Transport Engineering. Currently, she is working towards her Executive MBA in Aviation Management with Geneva University.

Key career achievements

- Partnership with Eurocontrol to address emerging safety issue of Aeronautical Information identified in Africa.
- Deployed strategy to improve African aviation safety record to world average by 2015, strategy became known as Abuja Declaration. Successful advocacy resulted in African Union adopting the Abuja Declaration and for first time African Governments had recognized the need to improve aviation safety.
- Found a solution to accelerate States and ANSPs' implementation of RNAV routes to proactively respond to user needs and CO2 emission reduction. Achieved implementation of more than 60 RNAV routes in Africa.
- Introduced implementation of User Preferred Routing within Africa.
- Driven implementation of Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum in Africa.