



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

GLOBAL AVIATION SAFETY ROADMAP (GASR) WORKSHOP

(Arusha, Tanzania 12 - 14 August 2008)

REMARKS BY

MR. GEOFFREY P. MOSHABESHA, ICAO REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Honourable Dr. Shukuru Kawambwa, Member of Parliament, Minister of Infrastructure Development;

Ambassador Dr. Juma Mwapachu, Secretary General of the East African Community;

Eng. Margaret Munyagi, Director General of Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority;

Distinguished presenters and delegates;

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour and privilege for me to address such a distinguished audience on the opening ceremony of this three day Global Aviation Safety Roadmap Workshop.

First of all, I would like to convey to you the warmest greetings from the President of the ICAO Council, Mr. Roberto Kobeh Gonzalez; the Secretary General of ICAO, Dr. Taïeb Chérif and the entire ICAO Secretariat.

Second, I wish to thank the Government of United Republic of Tanzania for accepting to host this important workshop in Arusha, the city of tourism, popularly known as the Geneva of Africa as coined by the former US President Bill Clinton

At this point, I wish to take this opportunity to say that my colleagues and I are very grateful for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us since our arrival in Arusha.

To you Honourable Dr. Shukuru Kawambwa, we are greatly honoured by your presence at this opening ceremony and for having taken time off from your busy schedule to grace this event. Your presence is testimony to your commitment and the commitment of the Republic of Tanzania to promoting aviation safety. This is a great encouragement to us in ICAO as well the aviation community as a whole. Honourable Minister we thank you for being here

Many thanks to you, Ambassador Juma Mwapachu, Secretary General of the East African Community, for also honouring us with your presence. Your presence is a demonstration of the high priority that the Community attaches to aviation safety.

To you Eng. Margaret Munyagi, Director General of Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority, thanks for making every effort possible to ensure that this workshop is convened as planned.

In addition, I wish to thank you presenters and participants as well as the States and the organizations you represent for being here.

With regard to the background to the workshop, you will recall that, during its last meeting held in September 2007, the ICAO Assembly, through Resolution A36-7, among others, stressed the need for a reduction in the number and rate of fatal accidents in air transport operations in all parts of the world and particularly in regions where the rate is significantly higher than the worldwide average; and urged Contracting States and the industry to apply the Global Aviation Safety Plan and Global Aviation Safety Roadmap principles and objectives and to implement the methodologies in partnership with all concerned stakeholders to reduce the number and rate of aircraft accidents.

You will also recall, Assembly Resolution A36-1 that established the ICAO Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa with the objective of enhancing aviation safety in Africa through increased coordinated efforts under ICAO leadership to reduce serious deficiencies in the Africa – Indian Ocean Region which are detrimental to the functioning and further development of international civil aviation.

These two Resolutions are at the source of this important workshop which is being organized jointly by the International Civil Aviation Organization , the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority , the East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency , and the Industry Safety Strategy Group which comprises the Airports Council International , Airbus, Boeing, the Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO), the Flight Safety Foundation , the International Air Transport Association and the International Federation of Airline Pilots Association .

The objective of this Workshop is to familiarize the regional stakeholders with the Global Aviation Safety Roadmap process of achieving sustainable global aviation safety and to reach an agreement on a course of action to implement the Roadmap in East Africa. This is expected to be achieved through the conduct of gap-analysis based on the identified focus areas and chart out how these can be bridged within the shortest period possible to be conducted by the Programme established to give effect to the AFI Plan in close cooperation with the concerned States and by clearly identifying the roles of the various key stakeholders.

In other words, the Roadmap attempts to guide States and industry to work together to improve the safety level, a joint effort around a common objective, to improve and allow for the sharing of efforts in an efficient way, to focus the

resources where really needed to mitigate risks, to multiply the impact, due to the individual contributions and to obtain the support of the industry. The process of holding a Global Aviation Safety Roadmap seminar/workshop followed by the conduct of a gap-analysis has already been tested and the results are currently being analysed to formulate a solution to the problems identified through the gap-analysis exercise that involved all stakeholders in the States concerned.

The roadmap contains elements that are directed at ICAO and the States, and all stakeholders including the global aviation industry. The necessity exists to incorporate elements of the roadmap in the regional plans of ICAO, the civil aviation authorities and the operators with regional criteria.

The organization of this workshop, like the previous ones of its kind hosted respectively in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates), Abuja (Nigeria) and Bogota (Colombia), will show the benefit of the roadmap and lead to the development of a regional action plan with emphasis on particular areas where assistance is necessary; they would contribute to the visibility of the States and clearly will orient the efforts in a convergent way. In line with Assembly Resolution A36-1, comprehensive regional implementation would streamline the use of the funds, resources and experience to the benefit of safety and would facilitate access to financing sources, if necessary.

No doubt this workshop, with the contribution of ICAO, will have an impact in the reduction of the risk of accidents in air transport operations in the Region-

In conclusion, without taking anymore of your time, I wish you a very successful three-day workshop and hope that the exchanges of experiences by

qualified experts like those gathered here today will contribute to the improvement of aviation safety not only in the Eastern and Southern African Sub-Region but also in Africa and the whole world.

I thank you for your attention.