

REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TCAA AT THE OPENING
OF THE GLOBAL AVIATION SAFETY ROADMAP WORKSHOP HELD AT
NAURA SPRINGS HOTEL, ARUSHA ON 12 AUGUST 2008

Hon. Dr. Shukuru Kawambwa, Minister for Infrastructure
Development of the United Republic of Tanzania

Ambassador Juma Mwapachu, Secretary General, East African
Community

Mr. Geoffrey Moshabesha, the ICAO Eastern and Southern Africa
Regional Director

Mr. Chris Kuto, AFCAC President and Director General KCAA
African Representatives on the ICAO Council

Mr. Omari Nundu, President of the ICAO Air Navigation
Commission

Representatives of ISSG (IATA, ACI, CANSO, Boeing, Airbus, Flight
Safety Foundation and IFALPA)

Representatives of Donor Agencies and Cooperation Partners

Directors General of Civil Aviation and Airports Authorities

Executive Director of the EAC Civil Aviation Safety and Security
Agency

Representatives of the EAC Secretariat

CEOs of Airlines and Air Operators

Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen

Honourable Minister, on behalf of the Directors General of the Civil
Aviation and Airports Authorities of the EAC Partner States, I would
like to express my sincere gratitude to you for accepting our
invitation to attend this opening ceremony of the EAC Global
Aviation Safety Roadmap Workshop, particularly at this time when
the Parliament is still in session in Dodoma. Your presence here
reflects the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania's
commitment and that of all the other EAC Partner States to the
enhancement of aviation safety and security in the Region. And on
behalf of all the delegates, we say Asante sana.

Honourable Minister

This Workshop is jointly organized by the Tanzania Civil Aviation
Authority, the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the EAC

Civil Aviation Safety and Security Agency and the members of the Industry Safety Strategy Group (ISSG) which comprises the Airports Council International (ACI), Airbus, Boeing, the Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), Flight Safety Foundation (FSF) and the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Association (IFALPA), most of them being represented here. The Workshop is specifically designed for the five EAC Partner States of Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania and their Regional Oversight Agency (CASSOA) while the neighbouring States of Ethiopia, Comoro, Malawi, Zambia and Mozambique have also been invited. Members of the delegations from these countries include civil aviation and airports authorities and the national carriers. Furthermore, participants include a number of ICAO Council Representatives of a number of African countries such as Nigeria and South Africa. Several cooperating partners including the World Bank, the US Federal Aviation Administration and the European Union are also participating.

Honourable Minister

Reduction of incidents and accidents has remained one of the major preoccupation of ICAO since its inception in 1944. The number of accidents is still a key indicator of safety. While accidents have been decreasing in most parts of the world, in Africa this record is still high. According to ICAO, during the five-year period from 2000 - 2004, the world accident rate average was 0.8 (fatal accidents per 1 million departures for scheduled operations, all air transport operations, fixed wing aircraft more than 5,700 kgs) while for Africa, the rate was 5.0, more than 6 times the world average. The ICAO safety target for the coming five year period of 2008 - 2011 is that no single region shall have an accident rate more than twice the worldwide rate by the end of 2011, based on a five year sliding rate. This means that there is a lot to be done if this target is to be reached in Africa in three years time.

In order to guide and prioritize the technical work programme of the Organisation, ICAO introduced the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) in 1997. Over these ten years, the global safety initiatives have evolved into a proactive approach whereby the industry is now

working closely with ICAO to ensure an integrated and a more coordinated effort, thus reducing inconsistency and duplication. This is what the Global Aviation Safety Roadmap is all about and why such workshops as this are now being conducted in several regions of the world.

Honourable Minister

The basic objectives of this workshop are to:

1. Familiarize the Workshop participants with the GASR approach and clearly identify the roles of States, the international organizations and each sector of the industry, emphasizing their complementary nature in the implementation of the Roadmap
2. Determine the initial steps to develop the EAC regional implementation plan incorporating the Roadmap and the Global Aviation Safety Plan
3. Agree on a course of action to implement the GASP and effectively monitor its orderly evolution in accordance with the Roadmap process

The Roadmap provides a common frame of reference for all stakeholders including States, regulators; aircraft and airport operators, air traffic service providers, aircraft manufacturers, international organizations and safety organizations.

1. Consistent implementation of international standards
2. Consistent regulatory oversight
3. Effective errors/incident reporting
4. Effective incident and accident investigation
5. Consistent coordination of regional programmes
6. Effective reporting and analysis of errors and incidents
7. Consistent use of safety management systems
8. Consistent compliance with regulatory requirements
9. Consistent adoption of industry best practices
10. Alignment of global industry safety strategies
11. Sufficient number of qualified personnel
12. Effective use of technology to enhance safety

While the first four areas focus on States, the fifth focuses on regional economic communities and the other 7 focus on the industry i.e. the service providers.

Honourable Minister

During these three days, the Workshop participants are going to form technical subgroups and perform a gap analysis of the East African Community Partner States on each focus area with respect to the expected status. The analysis will focus on how the recently established regional safety oversight agency - CASSOA will use the regional resources and those which will be channeled to it to improve the region's safety within the globally acceptable levels. The analysis will show the deficiencies which need to be addressed under each focus area. The Workshop will thereafter prioritize the deficiencies and subsequently draft a Global Aviation Safety Roadmap Action Plan for the East African Community. We expect that our cooperating Partners will then come in to see how they can work with the Region in the implementation of the Action Plan.

Honourable Minister

It is worth mentioning that cooperation and coordination in the aviation sub-sector among the EAC Partner States continued even during the period when the Community was non-existent (between 1977 and 1999). During all this period, the civil aviation authorities and more recently, the airports authorities have been working together on improving aviation safety, security and efficiency in the region. To enable joint utilization of resources particularly in the flight safety area, the harmonization of civil aviation regulations for Annexes 1, 6 and 8 was undertaken over a period of three years which culminated in the adoption and dissemination of fully harmonized regulations in January of this year. This work was accomplished by the local experts from the Partner States with technical assistance from the US Federal Aviation Administration. Following the adoption of the harmonized regulations, preparation of technical guidance materials, both for the inspectors and the industry, have been undertaken and the work has just been completed last month. This will facilitate the re-certification of the Partner States' national carrier commencing next week. I hope the airlines are ready for the exercise.

After the successful harmonization with respect to Annexes 1,6 and 8, the Region has now moved to cover Annexes 11, 14 and 17.

Further, so as to sustain the harmonization and cooperation in the aviation sub-sector and be able to jointly use the regional resources, the Region has created a regional aviation safety oversight agency, CASSOA (Civil Aviation Safety and Security Agency), under the EAC Protocol. The Agency became operational on 1 June 2007 and will be headquartered in Entebbe Uganda effective October 2008. Currently, the Agency is functioning along the basic regional aviation safety organization (RASO) model - basically coordinating the regional harmonization programmes. However, it is expected that the Agency will sooner than later evolve into a more complex model with capacity to have regional inspectors to assist national experts in the Partner States' regulatory activities.

Honourable Minister,

The foregoing information shows that the EAC Partner States are really ready for this workshop and regards it as very timely. Three of them (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania) are scheduled for a Comprehensive Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme audit in two months time (November 08). Although Tanzania was able to resolve almost all the deficiencies noted by ICAO during its audit in April 2000, making it achieve a relatively remarkable level of compliance during the follow-up audit conducted in 2003, TCAA realizes that maintaining that record is an even bigger challenge. However, the Authority is determined to rise up boldly to this challenge. I am sure this is the same for all my colleagues from the other EAC Partner States and indeed from the other African States represented here.

Subsequently, we strongly believe that the workshop will give the participants the necessary insight on how all the stakeholders can efficiently work together to improve the safety record in East Africa and Africa at large. We thank ICAO and the ISSG Members for choosing to hold the second such Workshop in Africa in our Region.

Before I conclude, I would like to again thank you Honourable Minister for participating in this opening ceremony. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to the EAC Secretary General, the Regional Director ICAO ESAF Office and all the officials and participants whose presence here will contribute greatly to the success of this important Workshop.

Mr. Minister, Mr. Secretary General, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. I thank you all for this opportunity. I say Karibuni Sana Tanzania, Karibuni sana Arusha.