



African Airlines Association

Association des Compagnies Aériennes Africaines

Serving, promoting and protecting the common interests of African Airlines

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Press Release

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AFRAA READY FOR SECOND AVIATION SUPPLIERS AND STAKEHOLDERS CONVENTION IN NAIROBI, 16-18 JUNE 2013

Nairobi, Kenya, 28 May 2013: The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) will hold the second Aviation Suppliers and stakeholders Convention in Nairobi, Kenya from 16-18 June 2013. Convened under the theme “Business Together”, the Convention aims to foster dialogue, build sustainable networks in supply chain management, create a competitive environment and ultimately improve the aviation support base in the continent. In addition, the event will also provide “an outstanding profile building, networking and direct sales opportunities for suppliers of equipment, components, solutions and services,” according to AFRAA.

This aviation suppliers event will bring together 250 delegates from airlines, airports, civil aviation organisations and air traffic navigation service providers (the customers) on the one hand and aircraft/engine manufacturers, component suppliers, IT, catering, fuel, training and other service providers (the suppliers) to the aviation industry on the other.

According to the Secretary General of AFRAA, Dr. Elijah Chingosho, the conference “Provides a platform for users and suppliers of aviation products, solutions and services to showcase new developments and innovations, discuss industry trends, network and forge beneficial partnerships.” The event will also provide outstanding products marketing and exhibition opportunity for industry partners and suppliers of equipment, components, solutions and services.

AFRAA’s motivation for staging this annual event is to support the growth and development of aviation in Africa by matching investors in aviation with the sources of supply of the resources and expertise they need for the business. Aviation in Africa is experiencing unprecedented growth in both passenger and cargo, spurred by huge economic growth and investments in many African countries. The continent’s airlines are positioning themselves to take advantage of the growth opportunities. AFRAA aims to improve the industry supply chain efficiency and capacity as part of efforts to support the rapidly growing aviation business in Africa. Currently, Africa is one of the fastest growing aviation markets in the world with a 7.6% RPK growth in 2012. African aviation is projected to grow by over 7.5% year-on-year over the next 10 years. This growth would require enormous investments and an efficient and well-coordinated supply chain system to ensure that the necessary resources, components and inputs are readily available and competitively priced to support this growth.

The structure of the Convention includes keynote addresses by African and global aviation leaders, presentations on industry development trends, supply chain dynamics and management as well as panel discussions on stakeholder collaboration in aviation development and how tourism can be further stimulated on the continent. There will be three master classes on fare management and ancillary revenue, route network cooperation and fleet planning. These sessions will be handled by expert consultants in the industry. There will also be an exhibition of some products, solutions and services by aviation suppliers in different categories.

The highlight of the Convention will be the crowning of best services providers to the African aviation industry during a gala dinner on 17 June, in the following four categories:

- Air Transport IT Service Provider of the Year
- Catering and Inflight Supplier of the Year
- Aviation Training Provider of the Year
- Ground Handling Service Provider of the Year

The event is the brainchild of the Executive Committee of AFRAA and supported internationally by IATA, AFCAC and ICAO. Locally, the Ministry of Transport, Kenya Airways, Kenya Civil Authority and Kenya Airports Authority have all endorsed the Convention which will be held at the Panari Hotel on Mombasa Road.

So far 20 African airlines have registered to participate. 18 suppliers and exhibitors from Africa, Europe, the Middle East and North America will also be exhibiting. Delegates registered are from 36-countries in 4 continents.

Notes for the Editor

The African Airlines Association, also known by its acronym AFRAA, is a trade association of airlines from the member states of the African Union (AU). Founded in Accra, Ghana, in April, 1968, and headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, the primary purposes of AFRAA are to foster commercial and technical co-operation among African airlines and to represent their common interests.

AFRAA membership cuts across the entire continent of Africa and includes all the major intercontinental African operators. The Association members represent over 80% of total international traffic carried by African airlines.

For further information, please contact:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Sponsors of the Convention

- Atlantic Fuelex from the Middle East
- FLYHT from Europe
- Servair – a global catering and inflight suppliers with presence in 20 African countries
- Linkham Services from the United Kingdom
- Nigeria Aviation Handling Company (Nahco Aviance) from Nigeria

2. Exhibitors at the Convention

- South African Airways Technical
- Wirecard Technologies GmbH
- Hadid International Services
- Atlantic FuelEx
- Mapfre Asistencia
- SITA
- MI Airline
- African Aerospace
- Kenya Airways
- FlyHT
- Nigeria Aviation Handling Company (Nahco Aviance)
- EgyptAir Training Centre and Egyptair Maintenance & Engineering
- Flightline Training Services
- Smart4Aviation
- IFE Services
- Ethiopian Airlines Maintenance Repair and Overhaul
- Aero Industrial Sales

3. Confirmed Speakers

- Dr. Elijah Chingosho, Secretary General of AFRAA
- Mr. Mike Higgins, IATA RVP for Africa,
- Ms Sosina Iyabo, Secretary General, AFCAC
- Mr. Boitshoko Sekwati, Deputy Regional Director, ICAO
- Chris Oanda, Head of Supply Chain, Kenya Airways
- Sam Munda, Sales Director – SITA
- Capt Joseph Opere, Head of Flight Operations Training, Kenya Airways
- Mr. Frank Socha, ATPCO
- Mr. Djibril Taboure, Vice President APG Central & West Africa
- Mr. Mpho Phillip Sekhamane, Head of Global Operations Control Centre, South African Airways
- Mr. Cornwell Muleya, CEO Air Uganda
- Mrs. Aisha Abdallah, Partner, Anjarwalla & Khanna
- Mr. Bruno Boucher, Lufthansa Consulting
- Mr. Fred Kaigua, CEO Kenya Association of Tour Operators

- Ms. Lucy Mbugua, General Manager, Marketing and Business Development, Kenya Airports Authority
- Ms. Mercy Awori, Head of Air Transport, Kenya Civil Aviation Authority
- Dr. Gideon Kaunda, Executive Chairman, Pangaea Securities
- Ms. Sonal Sejpal, Consultant, Anjarwalla & Khanna