1. AFRAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN TRIPOLI

The Nairobi based African Airlines Association (AFRAA), recently held its ordinary 152nd meeting in Tripoli, Libya to transact normal business and assess progress of preparation towards the 42nd Annual General Assembly (AGA) scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia later in the year. The meeting was convened in Libya and hosted by Afriqiyah Airways.

In his report to the Executive Committee, the Ag. Secretary General, Mr. Tewodros Tamrat highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat since his appointment in June. The brief but detailed report covered communication with members and industry stakeholders, industry conferences, training, secretariat administrative matters and preparations towards the AGA. The Ag. Secretary General also outlined the work schedule for the remainder of the year.

The highly successful meeting of the Executive Committee concluded with a number of decisions made relating to the finances of the Association, capital investments, the annual general assembly, the appointment of external auditors, revitalizing the partnership programme and agreed on the process of recruiting a substantive Secretary General.



Chairmen, CEOs & other delegates at the AFRAA 152nd Executive Committee Meeting in Tripoli, Libya, recently.

Seated from L-R: Eng. Hussein Massoud (Chairman, Egyptair); Eng. Rammah Ettir (CEO, Afriqiyah); Mr. David Tokoph (Chairman, Interair SA); Mr. Kinfe Kahssaye (CEO, Air Nigeria)

The Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. David Tokoph, gave a report on the circumstance that led to the resignation of the Secretary General and measures taken thereafter to ensure the normal functioning of the Association. He thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their active support and for standing together at such a critical time. The Chairman also expressed his appreciation to the directors and staff of AFRAA for keeping the activities of the Association on track and urged them to continue the good work.

2. AIRLINES AUTOMATED BAGGAGE RULES

In another development, the AFRAA Secretariat immediately following the Executive Committee meeting, held an important, well attended and successful workshop on Automated Baggage Rules (ARB) at its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya on 24th August 2010.

The aim of the workshop was to assist airlines prepare for the migration to the new automated baggage standards before the traditional IATA baggage rules expire on 01st April 2011. The workshop, attended by 41 delegates from 15 airlines, discussed the new rules, their implementation, training and meeting the deadline of 31st April 2011.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the delegates defined their requirements and adopted action plans on the implementation of the new rules developed by the workshop. All airlines were urged to comply with the requirements to appoint "Baggage Champions" who will spearhead the internal resource mobilization and oversee implementation. Airlines are also expected to file their baggage provisions with ATPCO before 30th September 2010.

The airlines that attended the workshop were; African Express Airways, Air Burundi, Air Malawi, Air Mauritius, Air Tanzania, Egyptair, Ethiopian Airlines, Hahn Air, Interair, Kenya Airways, LAM Mozambique Airlines, Precision Air, Rwandair Express, South African Airways and South African Express.

Like other earlier IATA initiated global airline programmes, AFRAA is optimistic that it will support its members to comply with all the rigorous requirements of Automated Baggage Rules before April 2011.

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3. 42ND ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) is finalizing preparations to hold its 42nd Annual General Assembly (AGA) meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 21-23 November 2010 under the theme "Adapting to Survive and Prosper".

The AGA is the biggest and most prestigious airline event on the African continent and is usually attended by CEOs and Chairmen of airlines and aviation organizations, aircraft and engine manufacturers, technology service providers, governments, consultants and other experts from all over the world.

This year's event is expected to assemble over 300 top decision makers in the industry to deliberate on recent trends and developments in the industry and strategise on repositioning African airlines for growth and success.

Full details on the AGA will be made available soon.

Notes for Editors

The African Airlines Association, also known by its acronym AFRAA, is a trade association of airlines which hail from the nations of the African Union. Founded in Accra, Ghana, in 1968, and today 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 is spread across the entire continent and includes all the major intercontinental African operators. The Association members represent 83% of total international traffic carried by all African airlines.

The AFRAA Executive Committee currently comprises 12 Chief Executive Officers from Afriqiyah Airways, Air Ivoire, Air Mali, Air Seychelles, Egyptair, Ethiopian Airlines, Air Mauritius, LAM-Mozambique Airlines, Air Nigeria, South African Express and Tunis Air, and Interair SA. The Executive Committee is chaired by Mr. David Tokoph (Interair) and the current President of the Association is Mr. Girma Wake (Ethiopian Airlines).

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