



**NEWS RELEASE**

**01 January 2011**

### **AFRAA NEW SECRETARY GENERAL ASSUMES OFFICE**

The new Secretary General of the Nairobi based African Airlines Association (AFRAA), Dr Elijah Chingosho assumed office on 01 January 2011 after a brief handing over ceremony at the organisation's Headquarters. Dr Chingosho was appointed AFRAA Secretary General during the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Assembly (AGA) of the Association held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 21-23 November, 2010.

In a brief statement after the handing over, the Director, Government, Corporate & Industry Affairs, Tewodros Tamrat, who acted as Secretary General since 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010 congratulated Dr Chingosho on his appointment and wished him well. He assured him of his personal unflinching support to ensure that AFRAA becomes a better organisation than it is now. Mr Tamrat expressed his appreciation to the Executive Committee and 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Assembly (AGA) for appointing someone from within AFRAA to the high office of Secretary General for the first time in the Association's history. He also thanked the Executive Committee for their support of his administration over the last six months and called for their continued support and good counsel to his successor. Mr Tamrat expressed his confidence that the new Secretary General will take bold and pragmatic initiative in line with the clarion call for positive change at AFRAA by members and partners, adding that, "this is the only way he can justify the confidence reposed in him and move AFRAA to the next level.

In his initial remarks after taking office, Dr Chingosho lauded his predecessor, Tewodros Tamrat for his successful steering of the affairs of AFRAA during the last six months of transition. "Clearly, you have re-stabilised AFRAA and from now on, I can count on a united AFRAA", Dr Chingosho said.

Recounting the task ahead, Dr Chingosho said with the support and cooperation of members, the executive committee, partners and the secretariat team, "a new AFRAA will be borne that is results oriented and geared towards satisfying the needs of members". He assured the industry of "a new, transparent, vibrant and professional industry association that all will be proud of.

Dr Chingosho thanked the Executive Committee and the entire membership of AFRAA for the confidence reposed in him in electing him Secretary General of the Association. He assured the member airlines of his determination to measure up to the expectations of airlines and partners by repositioning AFRAA as a vibrant and proactive trade organisation in Africa.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary General of AFRAA, Dr Chingosho was the Director of Safety, Technical and Training of AFRAA for the past 9 years. He has extensive and diverse professional expertise in aviation, ranging from executive business management to being an author of aviation and business books.

With over 24 years aviation experience in technical and general management, three Masters Degrees in Aeronautical Engineering, Business Administration and Transport Economics and a Doctorate in Business Administration, Dr Chingosho is well-equipped with the knowledge, skills and expertise to deliver on his new mandate as Secretary General of AFRAA.

### **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 and includes all the major intercontinental African operators. The Association members represent 83% of total international traffic carried by African airlines.

For further information, please contact:

The Secretary General  
AFRAA Secretariat  
Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 20 2320144/2320148  
Email: [afraa@afraa.org](mailto:afraa@afraa.org)  
Website: [www.afraa.org](http://www.afraa.org)