

AFRAA APPOINTS NEW SECRETARY GENERAL

The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) held its 41st Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Maputo, Mozambique from 22-24 November, 2009. The host of the Conference was LAM Mozambique Airlines, whose CEO, José Viegas, presided over proceedings. This annual African air transport summit brought together Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of Airlines, Partners of AFRAA, Aircraft and Engine Manufacturers, International Organisations, other aviation stakeholders and the Media.

The 41st AGA was held under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Mozambique, HE Armando Emilio Guebuza, who officially opened the Conference.

Held under the theme 'Succeeding in Challenging Times,' the Conference discussed a wide range of industry issues including the need for airlines to closely collaborate, adoption and use of technology, the environment emerging business opportunities and how African airlines can survive in difficult and challenging times. At the conclusion of the two-day Conference, the airline executives adopted a number of resolutions pertinent to industry development and administrative issues.

One of the major highlights of the 41st AGA was the appointment of Mr Nick Fadugba as the new Secretary General of AFRAA. Mr Fadugba will replace Christian Folly-Kossi, whose second and final term of office as head of the Association comes to an end early next year.

The newly appointed Secretary General is the Founder and CEO of African Aviation Services, an aviation consulting firm focused on promoting aviation development in Africa. Over the last 20 years, Mr Fadugba has provided consultancy services and advice to African and international airlines as well as to aviation, finance and insurance companies and some governments. He has played valuable roles assisting African and international aviation companies to achieve some of their goals and, in particular, has helped to resolve problems and promote co-operation in the African aviation industry. His balanced and professional approach has earned him the trust and confidence of airlines, aviation and finance companies and industry leaders and regulators in Africa and around the world.

The new Secretary General of AFRAA is the Founder and Publisher of the renowned African Aviation Magazine, Africa's Aviation Industry Journal, which he launched 19 years ago, in 1990. For the past 18 years, he has annually organised Conferences on Air Finance and Leasing and Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), specifically tailored for Africa, providing a unique forum for African airlines and other stakeholders to discuss key commercial, financial and regulatory issues affecting the industry. The Annual African Aviation Conferences also seek to foster practical solutions through mutually beneficial co-operation.

The new AFRAA Secretary General will assume duty in early 2010.

Notes for Editors

The African Airlines Association, also known by its abbreviation 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 purpose of AFRAA is to establish and facilitate co-operation between African airlines.

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