



**Goodwill message from the Secretary General of AFCAC,
Ms Iyabo O. Sosina, to the
45th AFRAA Annual General Assembly (AGA)**

(Mombasa, Kenya, 24-26 November 2013)

Excellencies

The President of AFRAA

Chairperson of the Executive Committee of AFRAA

Secretary General of AFRAA

Distinguished CEOs of Airlines

Fellow participants

Ladies and Gentlemen,

All Protocols observed

It is my honour and privilege to be here with you today on behalf of the African Civil Aviation Commission at your 45th AGA.

As you are all aware, AFCAC whose membership comprises 54 African States has evolved into a very strong and respected organization and perhaps the most visible and strategic Specialised Agency of the AU. Permit me from the onset to say that AFCAC and AFRAA are like Siamese twins, which are working together for the improvement of civil aviation activities in Africa.

AFCAC is basically charged with harmonising and coordinating civil aviation matters at the continental level and has welcomed the additional responsibility entrusted it as Executing Agency of the YD.

Accordingly, we have adopted a new Vision, Mission and Strategic Objectives to reflect our responsibilities. In order to implement the Vision and Mission and to overcome the key challenges in the air transport industry, we have developed a set of five strategic objectives for the two triennia (2011-2016)

The Strategic Objectives address:

- Air Transport – to foster Sustainable Development of Air Transport in Africa;
- Safety – to enhance Civil Aviation Safety in Africa;
- Security – to enhance Civil Aviation Security in Africa;
- Human Resource Development – to ensure Sustainable Human Resources Development for African Aviation;
- Rule of Law – to promote and ensure Adherence to Rules, Regulations and Transparency in all spheres of Civil Aviation in Africa.

The challenges facing the airline industry in Africa are more or less similar from State to State. Thus, there is a need for a joint framework that will ensure the coordinated and streamlined development of the Aviation industry within our continent.

There is no gainsaying that Aviation provides dynamic support for businesses, trade, tourism, cultural and social activities which significantly contribute to Africa's economic growth and prosperity. Therefore, we must ensure that the Yamoussoukro Decision (YD) is fully implemented otherwise, African Airlines may not survive, and if they do, they will not be viable given the barrage of and severe competition from outside the continent.

Distinguished Participants

Currently, AFCAC has devoted much of its time and limited resources to addressing the challenges facing air transport in Africa specifically in the areas of Safety and YD implementation. As most of you will recall, AFCAC with the technical support of ICAO is implementing the AFI Cooperative Inspectorate Scheme (AFI-CIS) . The Scheme has enabled Africa to mobilise its resources from various States. AFCAC has succeeded in assisting many States in addressing and resolving their Safety Oversight Deficiencies and Significant Safety Concerns. This has ensured that they continuously meet their safety oversight obligations in accordance with ICAO SARPs, thus improving the image of our Continent.

I am happy to note that AFCAC and AFRAA cooperate, collaborate and coordinate on many of the continent's challenges in Aviation. In this regard, AFRAA should ensure that all its members are IOSA certified in line with one of the Safety Targets set in Abuja in 2012 by the African Ministers responsible for aviation. We should also continue to consciously work together to ensure that we meet all of the 2012 Abuja Safety Targets.

I must recall that with the entry into force of the new AFCAC Constitution of 2009, some of the constraints of AFCAC to deliver quality and prompt service to African States as codified, envisaged and as entrusted with the attribution of the Executing

Agency of the YD have been removed. AFCAC is therefore ready among other things, to supervise and manage Africa's liberalised air transport market in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) which are the building blocks for African integration.

Furthermore, I would like to draw your attention to the African Common Civil Aviation Policy (AFCAP). This document contains the Policy Statements, Objectives, Strategies and Concepts on Civil Aviation matters. This Document was adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT 2), held in Luanda, Angola in November 2011. It was subsequently endorsed by the Assembly of the African Heads of State and Government. The Document is a tool for harmonizing and enhancing Aviation Safety, Security and Sustainable Development of Air Transport in Africa.

- 1) The AFCAP in all the technical Provisions in parts 2 & 3 have detailed Objectives, Policy Statements and Strategies for ease of reference and implementation.
- 2) The AFCAP is also available on our website www.afcac.org currently in the English language only as the other AU languages are being realigned with the English Text by the AUC.

Please collect electronic copy from AFRAA – also available on its website, as the AFRAA Secretariat was fully involved in the development of the AFCAP

I would like to implore you all, as airlines and Regulators, to sensitize your States to sign and ratify all existing International Air Law Instruments, especially the Montreal Convention of 1999 and the Cape Town Instruments of 2001 due to their immense benefits to our airlines and indeed, the Aviation Industry. AFCAC and AFRAA will continue to provide assistance in this regard to any State which requires our expertise.

On behalf of AFCAC, I look forward to working with you at all times so that we can continue to improve aviation Safety, Security, the Environment and Sustainable Development of Aviation in Africa.

Finally, I would like to thank the Government and people of Kenya, Kenya Airways and AFRAA for organising this meeting and for their kind hospitality and warm welcome.

I wish you all fruitful deliberations.

Thank you all for your attention.