

INTERVENTION IN MOMBASA

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me first to congratulate myself for receiving such an honorable distinction, as is the "Award Recipient of the Outstanding Service Provider" of the Year Award Category granted to Angola this year.

On behalf of the Government of my Country, with which I represent in this act, I registered here the great satisfaction and truthful appreciations of the Angolan Executive for the concerned of such high award, which puts the Civil Aviation and, in particular, our Company Flag – the most visible face of airlift of Angola and our presence in many countries – in the spotlights of international air transport and among airlines, not only in Africa but all around the World.

There will not be false modesty emphasize that we tried to do our best.

We did a lot in a short time and, believe me, because Angola is a country open to the World, air travel is a key instrument in the process of internationalization of our economy.

Every day Angola receives many entrepreneurs, investors, men of business and international finance, which makes irrefutable and unambiguous the opening of Angola's economy to the international scene, where we intend to persistently and safely strengthen our presence.

In today's globalized world it is not possible to continue to live with closed doors, or refuse international relations with all countries, because we all have a lot to offer – and this approach creates conditions for international détente, to the intensification of trade, for the approximation of peoples, and the development of international tourism, perhaps the privileged vehicle that allows us to better know each other.

That is, the key to reducing the edginess of international relations that unfortunately still exist today in various parts of the globe step.

Indeed, air transport is the key link of relations between countries and societies, trade and solidarity chain, deepening the quality and safety in civil aviation is critical to maintaining trust, taste, and tranquility of traveling, whether for reasons business, whether in leisure travel.

I would not dwell much on these considerations, but I cannot help myself to register here a few achievements and projects that we were able to carry out this year, confirming the cycle of growth and progress that Angola crosses, which I believe is the general knowledge of all the personalities present here.

The guidelines and development sponsored by the President of Angola, Eng^o José Eduardo dos Santos, the chief architect of the great changes that are taking place in the country strategy not only in the airport field, but in all sectors of life improving life conditions and economic activity in general, are part of a line course that favors the promotion of economic relations and friendship with all peoples of the World, particularly those, who, through our airline company – TAAG – we relate more closely every day in economic and trade terms.

I can make a list of the accomplishments that span the entire air transport sector and cut across the diverse activities in this area.

Without concern of been wholeness, I would not fail to mention, for example, the following:

- The profound restructuring of the aviation sector in institutional terms;
- Modernization of Airports;
- The legal sector reform;
- The refounding of TAAG - Our Company Flag;
- The Restructuring of Authority – the National Institute of Civil Aviation and ENANA – the National Company of Airports of Angola.

To which I add, if I may so, another aspect that is in fairly expensive – the training and continual training of human capital, our most valued asset, which we choose as the paradigm of rehabilitation, expansion and modernization of the air transport sector process.

Effort that we now recognized with pride and great satisfaction with this award, the most by any country desired distinction in assessing the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) performs annually on the progress of the airport system in our Continent.

We are perfectly aware that the impact and success of the strategy and policy measures that were translated in practical achievements have stated and determined the allocation of this reward, had actual translation practice in the operational plan and come mainly from the recognition of the efforts made by the Angola Government to reduce operating costs of airlines and increasing safety and quality in air transport.

That are, in fact, as we all recognize without difficulty, the most decisive strategic variables in demand for this mode of transport and the 'drivers' of increased revenue for carriers, the economic viability of commercial operation, the return on investment and ultimately, the sustainability of air transport and our companies in the international globally market .

This distinction, far beyond the immediate satisfaction for the recognition of our action for the aviation sector, has, however, commit ourselves, as of now, with the increased visibility afforded by it entails responsibility.

Not that we are convinced we have already done everything.

We can always do better, but maintaining the level and standard achieved is particularly demanding and we do not want, neither can we lower the bar to the demands we put on the planes of safety, quality, and economy of air transport, because we know that these three pillars depends on the efficiency, viability and sustainability of air transport.

Finally, let stay here our commitment, which involves keeping the continuity of the reforms that we have developed within the aviation sector and proceed without fainting or loss of mind toward the path and strokes.

And once more reiterate our thanks, reaffirming sure you proceed as before: acting in enhancing the safety and quality of air transport by promoting best practices , and working to ensure that operators continue operating costs tend to fall, without loss of efficiency and competitiveness.

Once again, our sincere thanks and also our thanks for this moment.