

SG's OPENING REMARKS

- **Honorable Ricardo De Abreu** Minister of Transport of the Republic of Angola;
- **Mr. Rui Carreira**, President of AFRAA and CEO of TAAG Angola Airlines;
- **Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid**, African Union Commissioner for Infrastructure & Energy;
- **Mr. Alexandre de Juniac**, Director-General and CEO of IATA;
- **Mr. Tefera Mekonnen**, Secretary General of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);
- **Mr. Barry Kashambo**, Regional Director - International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Eastern & Southern African (ESAF) Regional Office;
- Chief Executives and representatives of Member Airlines,
- Industry Partners and Sponsors,
- Members of the Media,
- Distinguished delegates, ladies, and gentlemen

WELCOME

It is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you to this 52nd General Assembly on behalf of the African Airlines Association.

We are delighted to have you with us to participate in this assembly in a virtual format. Your attendance serves as a reminder to us all just how important the African Airlines industry is.

GRATITUDES

I wish to express our immense gratitude to His Excellency, the Transport Minister of the Republic of Angola, for gracing this assembly with his presence on the programme.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I wish to acknowledge the high-level representatives from the AUC, ICAO, IATA, AFCAC, and many others; I can't cite everyone.

Your involvement and interest in our association are excellent support for us.

Ladies and gentlemen,

COVID19

We are all committed to overcoming the unprecedented challenges raised by the COVID19 pandemic, impacting our industry.

During these difficult times, I wish to express AFRAA solidarity with the aviation industry's supply chain.

As an aviation community, the COVID19 had been the occasion to work closely together to find solutions and determine actions for restart and recovery of the aviation sector. We need to keep alive the on-going efforts to support the resumption and foster a resilient Air Transport system in Africa.

OUR MISSION

We will keep by our mission to promote and serve African airlines and champion Africa's aviation industry.

"Better Skies for Africa" remains the pillar of all our actions.

AGA52

This year our theme is "**Redefining Air Transport for a New Era.**"

It provides an opportunity to rethink our industry and develop a winning perspective for the airline industry, which is instrumental for the economic development and integration of the African continent.

Ladies and gentlemen,

CONCLUSION

Before I handover to the Master of Ceremony, I want to say once more on behalf of the African Airlines Association, **welcome**. We are delighted to have so many of you around online."

Thank you for your attention.