



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE AFRICAN AIRLINES ASSOCIATION, THE AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION COMMISSION AND THE AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL-AFRICA REGION.**

**NAIROBI, July 16<sup>th</sup> 2008.**

**The African Aviation Industry has received a major boost following the signing of a historical Memorandum of understanding between three continental bodies the African Airlines Association (AFRAA), Africa Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and Airports Council International Africa Region.**

The MOU was signed by Mr. Christian Folly Kosi, CEO (AFRAA), Mr. Chris Kuto, President (AFCAC) and Director-General KCAA and Mr. George Muhoho, President Airports Council International-Africa who is also the Managing Director KAA.

The main objective of the agreement is to promote the development of a safe, reliable and efficient air transportation system in Africa to facilitate the continent's economic growth and integration. The memorandum will promote cooperation and collaboration between the signing parties through coordination of certain activities, joint projects and programs, exchange of information and data and sharing of best practices.

The roles of the three organizations are as follows;

- The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) is a professional association of African airlines, established in 1968 in Ghana under the auspices of the then Organization of African Unity ("OAU"), its motivation is the desire to establish harmonious and effective cooperation between African airlines which in turn will accelerate the realization of economic and social integration of African countries.

- The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) was established in 1964 under the auspices of the then Organization of African Unity (“OAU”) and is recognized as a specialized agency of the African Union (“AU”), Its mandate is to coordinate matters of civil aviation in Africa, foster compliance of ICAO standards and recommended practices and promote civil aviation in Africa.
- Airports Council International (ACI)-Africa was established in 1991 as one of the five regions within the umbrella body Airports Council International. ACI is a worldwide association that represents Airports interests and foster cooperation with partners throughout the air transport industry.

The agreement will address the concerns in Africa that aviation activities are being initiated in the continent by various parties without adequate consultation and participation of the organizations representing the major stakeholders such as the airlines and airports ( the operators) and the Civil Aviation authorities (the regulators). The agreement will also reduce on the duplication of efforts and wastage of limited resources.

The agreement will also foster cooperation on the following areas:

- Aviation Safety and Security
- Infrastructure and Regional integration
- Air Transport Liberalization – The Yamoussoukro Decision
- Capacity Building
- Technology advancement

A joint council will be established as a result of the MOU which will ensure that there is consultation and close cooperation between the three parties. This will facilitate effective participation in the decision making process as well as the implementation of aviation projects in Africa.

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