



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ENCROACHMENT ON AIRPORT LAND**

**2<sup>nd</sup> September 2008**

Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) is a Government wholly owned State Corporation; established in May 1991 through an Act of Parliament, CAP 395. The Authority is charged with the responsibility of planning, designing, maintenance and operation of all aerodromes in Kenya. Under inspired leadership, the Authority is transforming its airports to be customer oriented and to be at par with the best in continental Africa and the world.

Kenya Airports Authority's in conjunction with the ministry of lands and public works has been in the process of rehabilitating and fencing all the 280 public airstrips in the country. This measure is to help curb the cases of grabbing and encroachment of public land as well as ensuring a safe area for planes to land within the area.

KAA engineers and surveyors have already visited airstrips in the Western, Central, North Eastern and Coast circuits to establish their condition and if they had been interfered with. Survey work continue to be conducted in all the airstrips followed by demarcation and fencing of the airstrips. However, the rehabilitation work in some of the airstrips can not commence because unscrupulous individuals have illegally acquired ownership documents.

In some areas, developments have interfered with safety of aviation activities and the airports/airstrips need to be relocated. This include Garissa airport, Rumuruti Airstrip, Turbi Airstrip, Mandera airstrip

In other areas there have been severe encroachment and grabbing of airport land and legal measures are been looked into to solve these issues. They include; Busia Airstrip, Makindu Airstrip, Lodwar Airstrip, Bungoma Airstrip, Chuka Airstrip, Kitale Airstrip, Njoro Airstrip, Ukunda Airstrip, Kiwayu Airstrip, Tinderet Airstrip and Wilson airport.

This is a notice to all who have illegally attained public land that belongs to airports and airstrips that Kenya Airports Authority will not spare anyone and all land will revert back to its rightful use.

KAA is committed to ensuring that the standards of all the airstrips are well maintained to facilitate both safe landing and take-of. It is the desire of Kenya Airports Authority to ensure that all the airports and airstrips in the country provide premier airport services in the region on the basis of quality customer services and transport infrastructure.