

PRESS RELEASE

Kenya set to Host the eleventh (11th) ICAO Air Services Negotiation Event

Nairobi, 19th November 2018 – Kenya will be hosting yet another major global aviation event in December 2018.

While making the announcement, Captain Gilbert Kibe, the Director-General of the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority said the eleventh (11th) ICAO Air Services Negotiation Event (ICAN2018) will be held for the first time in East and Central Africa region.

The five-day event that will be held in Nairobi from 10th to 14th December 2018 will attract nearly 1000 aviation professionals worldwide. It comes barely three months after the country played host to another global aviation event in which discussions on improvement on air safety took centre stage.

ICAN is an annual global aviation event convened by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) since 2008. The aim is to provide meeting facilities for States to conduct multiple bilateral, regional or pluri-lateral air services negotiations in a single location thus sparing the member states the trouble of making individual trips to each of the countries.

“We are honored and indeed it is a proud moment for us to host one of the biggest global aviation events. We will be working with various countries and industry groups to reach consensus on international civil aviation Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and policies in support of a safe, efficient, secure, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible civil aviation sector,” said Captain Kibe.

Kenya is also angling for a permanent seat at the ICAO Council. This will give the country the opportunity to represent 16 African countries and influence policy in the global aviation agenda.

“We therefore urge the government to position the aviation industry as a critical component in the national development agenda,” added Captain Kibe.

Since its inception, the number of countries that utilizes this facility has steadily increased. A total of 142 States have participated in and benefited from ICAN at least once with over 2700 agreements and arrangements having been signed between states and delegates.

This year, ICAN 2018 is expected to attract more than eight hundred delegates from around the world, bringing together the 192 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) member States’ delegates and key stakeholders in the aviation industry.

“We are cognizant of the development and growth prospects that ICAN 2018 presents to Kenya’s air transport. Hosting one of the biggest global events provides us with an excellent opportunity to showcase the Kenya aviation industry’s muscle and our influence in the continent. This therefore corroborates our lobbying efforts in securing a permanent seat at the ICAO Council,” Capt. Kibe added.

Mr. James Macharia, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, said ICAN 2018 provides a tremendous opportunity for Kenya’s integration into the global air transport network and a ton of possibilities for the Kenyan economic growth and development agenda.

“Air services negotiations that will happen during ICAN 2018 will open up foreign markets to Kenyan exports which have benefits through lowering transport costs, particularly over long distance and facilitate increased competition because suppliers can service a wider area and potentially reduce average costs, through increased economies of scale. We will also experience increase the flexibility of labor supply, which enhances allocative efficiency and brings down the natural rate of unemployment,” said Mr. Macharia.

The ICAN 2018 event will mark the second time the event will be held in Africa and the first time in East and Central Africa Region. In addition, the event will be the first to have the ICAO Council, led by its President Dr. Olumuyiwa Bernard Aliu in attendance during the opening ceremony. Dr. Olumuyiwa will also officiate the official groundbreaking of the Solar Energy Project at the Moi International Airport, Mombasa on December 12, 2018.

Other than the bilateral negotiations that will be taking place and the commissioning of the Solar Energy Project, side social events and workshops will run simultaneously. These will offer forums for the participants to learn about current trends, discuss and exchange experiences, as well as providing excellent networking opportunities.

#Ends#

Notes to the Editor:

About ICAN 2018:

ICAN is an International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) event that provides States and aviation industry players a central meeting place to conduct multiple bilateral (regional or plurilateral) air services negotiations. The eleventh ICAO Air Services Negotiation Event (ICAN2018) to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from 10th to 14th December 2018. It will be hosted by the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA).

Air transport in Kenya creates distinct types of economic benefit to the customer, the passenger or shipper, using the air transport service. Connections created between cities and markets represent important infrastructure assets that enable foreign direct investment, business clusters, specialization and other spill-over impacts on an economy’s productive capacity.

In 2017, the aviation industry in Kenya contributed approximately KES 330 billion to the country’s economy which is equivalent to 5.1% of the GDP. This is besides supporting about 620,000 jobs in various related sectors including tourism. According to the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Kenya currently has the largest aviation infrastructure in the EAC region and the industry is expected to achieve an annual growth of 5% by 2030.

About ICAO:

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), is a United Nations Agency based in Montreal, which is responsible for setting of standards that regulate aviation systems across the world.

About KCAA:

Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) was established on 24th October 2002 by the Civil Aviation (Amendment) Act, 2002 with the mandate to plan, develop, manage, regulate and operate a safe,

economically sustainable and efficient civil aviation system in Kenya, in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Aviation Act, 2013' read together with the amendment of 2016.

The Authority Plays a critical role in ensuring that an appropriate air transport system is established and sustained to support the development of the country. As a regulator, the Authority promotes a regulatory environment that is conducive to the growth of a vibrant and competitive air transport industry. As a service provider, the Authority provides air navigation services and training at the East African school of Aviation.

The above functions are undertaken guided by the provisions of the Convention On International Civil Aviation, related ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), the Kenya Civil Aviation Act, 2013 and the civil aviation regulations.

For more information, please contact:

Mercy Mbaika Corporate Communication KCAA Cell Phone: 0720 993041 Email:mmbaika@kcaa.or.ke	Carolyne Account Manager Apex Porter Novelli Cell Phone: 0724 325379 Email: cnyarango@apn.co.ke
--	---