

**SPEECH BY THE TRANSPORT MINISTER, HON. AMOS KIMUNYA,
DURING THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AIR TRAFFIC
CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATIONS (IFATCA) - AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST
REGIONAL MEETING AT INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, 27TH TO 29TH 2010**

President & Chief Executive Officer - Alexis Brathwaite,

Deputy President - Patrik Peters,

Executive Vice-President Finance - Darrell Meachum,

Executive Vice-President Professional- Scott Shallies,

Executive Vice- President Technical - Andrew Beadle,

Executive Vice-President Africa & Middle East- Hisham Bazian,

Executive Vice-President Americas - Alex Figuereo,

The Chairman, Kenya Civil Aviation Authority,

The Director General Kenya Civil Aviation Authority, Col. Hilary Kioko,

Members of the aviation fraternity,

All protocol observed,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The development of the aviation industry in Kenya is very vital as a link in the transportation network. While the road and rail systems serve the country internally, aviation and maritime also extend our transportation beyond our borders thus ensuring the ferrying of passengers and freight in and out of the

country. Aviation is especially important as it is directly linked with the two major economic sectors, that is, tourism and horticulture. In the last twelve months Kenya received 1,042,498 tourists, the bulk of whom came by air. This number is exclusive of those Kenyans returning home and foreigners with work permits.

In regional aviation, Kenya continues to lead. There are eight airports in Kenya, two of which are international and the rest serve national aviation operations. The Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) maintains another 150 airstrips scattered all over the country on Government agency basis.

There were a total of 26,852 aircraft movements across Kenya in January this year and 27,797 in September, with an average of 26,957.3 over the nine-month period. August had the highest number at 30,641 aircraft movements countrywide and the total aircraft movements in the period countrywide were 242,616.

With increased passenger numbers and cargo volumes comes the need to supply the industry with competent personnel able to undertake operations using new technology in aviation. The Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA), through its training institute, The East African School of Aviation (EASA) has continued to play this vital role. In addition to offering its traditional courses in Air Traffic Control and Telecommunication, EASA has introduced new courses in TCAS and RVSM, that is, Reduced Vertical Separation Minima, which the KCAA has

introduced to allow operators maximise their potential by taking advantage of the increased flight levels available within the system.

KCAA has also introduced a computerised examination centre at EASA, which holds more than two thousand aviation related questions that are picked randomly for each examination session. The results are marked immediately and a copy of each sent to the KCAA Headquarters and another copy made automatically available for the candidate.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pride to state that the East African School of Aviation boasts of alumni in almost every African country with an aviation industry.

East and Central Africa's aviation hub, the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) accounts for about 75% of the total aviation traffic in Kenya. The passenger traffic at JKIA has grown by over 50% in the last 8 years while cargo volumes registered a 75% growth between year 2000 and 2008. There were a total of 385,610 aircraft movements between 2001 and now. In the last four quarter years aircraft traffic performance has increased at an average of 7.2%.

To be able to us to handle this meteoric growth the Kenya Airports Authority has embarked on an ambitious expansion plan which is meant to expand the cargo apron, build a new terminal and a new parking lot to cater for the increased number of visitors to the airport. Through this expansion plan KAA hopes to:

- To increase terminal capacity and to reduce congestion in critical areas
- Resolve the issue of co-mingling of arriving & departing passengers
- Improve security and controlled access to International Standards
- Improve the Level of Service
- Provide a modern image of the facility
- Optimize revenue generation

KAA is advertising for consultancy services whose main objectives of the assignment are:

- To prepare a feasibility study for the second runway at JKIA and associated infrastructure
- To prepare a feasibility study for a remote aircraft parking apron at JKIA

Expansion is nearing completion at Kisumu Airport with the renovation of the existing runway and building of a new modern terminal to serve the western region of the country. A new terminal is being built at Malindi Airport and recently Wajir Airport runway was renovated and a new control tower built to improve air services in the North East region of the country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The need for a vibrant aviation sub sector cannot be gainsaid. I am proud to be associated with this vital harbinger to economic expansion nationally and

regionally. Please allow me to welcome all delegates from the International Federation of Air traffic Controllers (IFATCA) and the Kenya Air Traffic Controllers Association (KATCA) to Nairobi for this very important meeting.

Thank you very much.