

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CO2 MITIGATION FROM INTERNATIONAL AVIATION AFRICA AND CARIBBEAN (EU CORSIA AFRICA AND CARIBBEAN)

REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR OF AIR TRANSPORT - AFCAC

Directorate General for International Partnership (DG INTPA) – European Commission

Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) - European Commission

Directorate General for climate action (DG CLIMA) - European Commission

Secretary General - Latin America Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC)

Head of International Cooperation Department – EASA

International Cooperation Africa and America Section Manager - EASA

Workshop Facilitators

Dear Colleagues

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Secretary General of the AFCAC, I wish to extend our profound gratitude to European Commission and EASA for the organization of this Capacity building for CO₂ mitigation from international aviation for Africa and Caribbean regions.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the kind invitation to AFCAC to participate in this workshop and to share AFCAC's activities in the field of Environmental Protection.

Distinguished Participants,

Environmental protection is a key as a key strategic objective of AFCAC. The revised AFCAP calls for various interventions among which is limiting or reducing the impact of aviation greenhouse gas emissions on global climate.

AFCAP calls on African Member States to take necessary measures to ensure continuous development and growth of civil aviation with minimal adverse impact on the environment. Specifically, it encourages Member States to implement applicable ICAO SARPs as contained in Annex 16. The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) is glad to champion all continental Civil Aviation matters to support all our Member States being the African Union Specialized Agency for Civil Aviation.

As you are all aware, the pilot Phase of CORSIA commenced on 1 January 2021. So far, we have Twenty (20) African States have informed ICAO of their intent to participate voluntarily in the pilot Phase. This workshop on Monitoring, reporting and verification methodologies and data collection tools is therefore critical for these African States and even those yet to join CORSIA.

In order to support CORSIA implementation on behalf of African States, AFCAC has a focus on coordinating capacity-building sessions in order to increase understanding of CORSIA implementation, encourage more to volunteer and join CORSIA and introduce achievable targets at the continental level. In this regard, I am glad to inform you of the preparation by AFCAC for the next triennium (2022 – 2024) where the implementation of CORSIA, development of States' Action Plans for CO₂ reduction activities, environmental targets and activities to put in place policies for Sustainable Aviation Fuels are planned. Please visit the AFCAC website, www.afcac.org for more details.

It is our expectation that these interventions by AFCAC will increase the participation of African States in the CORSIA and harmonize implementation plans and monitoring mechanism at the continental level, promote the implementation of ICAO SARPs and demonstrate Africa's commitment towards environmental stewardship. These can be achieved through partnerships, capacity building programs and sharing of experiences.

Distinguished Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish to invite you to listen to the AFCAC's presentation on the activities and initiatives in the Environment field which will be delivered by the Environment Expert on the third day of this event. I welcome your input and ideas that will better address the needs of our member States.

The presentation will provide you with perspectives of our planned activities on CORSIA and its implementation, States' Action Plans, Sustainable Aviation Fuels and roll out of continental environmental plan and targets for the African region.

To our partners,

AFCAC values the partnership and collaboration we have. We always look forward to deepening our collaboration to effectively support the African States implement initiatives that promote green recovery, increase roll out of sustainable aviation fuels and put in place conducive policies that encourage sustainable development of air transport in an environmentally conscious way. This is more so in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Specifically, we value the important partnerships we have with EASA to promote environmental sustainability and development of air transport industry in Africa. This Workshop on CORSIA is testimony to that, as it compliments AFCAC's work in encouraging its member States to join and implement CORSIA. We hope to collaborate more in technological transfer and technical capacity enhancement for environmental experts of our member States to be able fully implement all applicable environmental standards.

Finally, distinguished participants from various civil aviation authorities in Africa, we cannot forget to remind one another of our obligations for environmental protection. I call upon you to allocate human and financial resources to address the challenges of negative environmental impacts of civil aviation in line with the ICAO Annex 16.

As always, we at AFCAC will remain at your disposal and will offer the much needed coordination with ICAO and partners in addressing concerns of our Member States.

I wish all the participants an excellent and fruitful workshop.

Thank you for your kind attention.