

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

P. O. Box 3243

Telephone: 517 700

Fax: 5130 36

website: [www. www.au.int](http://www.au.int)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Twenty-Eighth Ordinary Session

23 - 28 January 2016

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.4

Original: English

THE AFRICAN AIR EXPO 2016
(Item Proposed by the Republic of Ghana)

THE AFRICAN AIR EXPO 2016
(Item proposed by the Republic of Ghana)

1. Ghana will host the **First Global Aviation Exhibition and Conference for Africa, dubbed “The African Air Expo”, at the Kotoka International Airport in Accra from 12th to 14th October, 2016**, under the patronage of His Excellency President John Dramani Mahama. The Event was originally scheduled to take place in 2015, but had to be postponed due to the outbreak of the Ebola virus diseases in the sub-region.

2. Organized under the auspices of the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Ghana, in partnership with the International Centre for Excellence of Abu Dhabi, the three (3) day Event promises to be the largest exhibition for general, business and commercial aviation in Africa. It would bring together major players within the Aviation Industry and respond to the interest of demanding clientele to discover the industry's latest developments and innovations at a remarkable and convenient location.

3. As may be noted, Ghana is one of forty-four (44) African countries that have signed and ratified the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa and the adoption of appropriate regulatory texts towards the establishment of a Single African Aviation Market, pursuant to the Decision of the Assembly of the Africa Union (**Assembly/AU/Dec.565(XXIV) Paragraph 12**). Ghana is also a signatory to the Open Skies Agreement with a number of African Airlines which aims at opening up air services among all African States with a view to developing the air transport sector of the Continent.

4. It is in this light that the planned African Air Expo is expected to create a good platform for Ghana to make a significant contribution to the successful implementation of the Single African Aviation Market. It would offer our public and private sector actors the opportunities to build partnerships and collaborations on critical areas towards finding solutions to the issues facing the Aviation sector of Africa. It would equally assist in providing the Government of Ghana with a deeper insight into the road map for African Aviation and how Ghana could strategically position itself to reap potential benefits that abound in the growing industry.

OBJECTIVES OF THE AFRICAN AIR EXPO:

CONNECTING THE WORLD OF AVIATION OF THE AFRICAN MARKET

a) Aviation Industries, General, Business and Commercial Aviation

5. The largest exhibition for General, Business and Commercial Aviation in Africa, the African Air Expo brings together major players within the aviation industry, enables a demanding clientele to discover the industry's latest developments and innovations in a remarkable and convenient location.

6. General, Business and Commercial Aviation have seen strong growth within Africa in terms of number of movements and registered aircraft which have increased steadily over the last few years.

7. Part of this growth is due to a growing demand by African companies to efficiently transport teams to remote areas in certain industries such as mining, oil and gas. Africa is a fertile market for the growth of General, Business and Commercial Aviation as well as Growing Airport Infrastructure Demand thus predicting:

- 6.7 million jobs
- USD 67.8 billion GDP
- 67 million passengers
- 256 Airlines
- 1,302 Aircrafts
- 762,000 Flights
- 371 Commercial Airports

b) Airport Infrastructure and Suppliers

8. One of the aims of African Air Expo is to highlight the importance of infrastructure within aviation, this includes airport procurement, supplies, solutions and technology. African Air Expo will attract key aviation industry players to discover first-hand the range of new technologies and solutions that the industry has to offer. The African Air Expo is an ideal platform to discover the latest technologies and learn about emerging trends and networking with key decision-makers and get first-hand knowledge about the industry's present and future growth. By 2040, all airports on the continent will need to be expanded or supplemented by additional airports so as to handle the anticipated growth of 350% to 600% over current air passenger levels in Air Traffic.

c) Human Capitalisation

9. With the growth rate in African Aviation (around 6.3%) surpassing the global growth rate (hovering around 4.5%), the urgency to address human capital needs for the next 25 years has become a critical imperative. Ghana alone is experiencing a growth rate of over 9.2%. The African Air Expo will focus on the latest trends, training and recruitment within the aviation industry so as to prepare Africa to meet the challenges of the next 25 years. The Conference aims to provide an opportunity to chart out career opportunities in African Aviation, ask questions of industry experts and enjoy a hands-on experience within the aviation and aerospace industry. Empowering Africa through training and human capital development.

d) Learn, Interact, Exchange and Succeed

10. The African Air Expo promotes the belief that human capital development will continue to be rooted in a strong training culture which integrates experiences of the past with the massive requirements of the future. The Conference will address the issue that training not only delivers operational effectiveness but also caters to the dreams,

aspirations and ambitions of individuals looking for a long term career in the aviation industry. With Africa at the forefront of the growth in global aviation, the Conference will present to participants the platform to be at the forefront of arguably the fastest growth rates in aviation and airport-related human capital opportunities.

11. In this regard, it would be appreciated if the African Air Expo 2016 is announced as an item proposed by Member State – Republic of Ghana, in the Executive Council and Assembly Agenda at the next African Union Summit in January 2016.

12. The Republic of Ghana further kindly seeks the endorsement of the Assembly as well as the support of the AUC in terms of publicity and popularization of the Air Expo among AU Member States. The Event, therefore, will have no substantial budgetary implications for the AUC.

2016

The African Air Expo 2016 (Item Proposed by the Republic of Ghana)

African Union

African Union

<http://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/4930>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository