



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF
AVIATION



High Level/Ministerial Meeting on Enhancing Air Transport Connectivity and Growth in West Africa

Wednesday 17 March 2021
Thursday 18 March 2021

By VTC using Zoom Technology

Programme

Day 1 - Wednesday 17 March 2021 – EXPERTS’ MEETING	
15:00 – 15:15 Abuja, Nigeria time	<p>OPENING CEREMONY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introduction by Capt. Musa Nuhu – Director General, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA). Official Opening by Engr. Hassan Musa, Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Aviation, Nigeria. Why this conference? – Dr Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, Founder and President of International Partners for Aviation Development, Innovation and Sustainability (iPADIS)
15:15-15:45	<p>SESSION 1 – Pre-COVID challenges to air transport development in the sub-region</p> <p>The challenges of the aviation industry in Africa generally and the peculiar challenges specific to West Africa prior to Covid-19 are known. These have been identified and several solutions have been proffered through various Declarations, Policies and Roadmaps adopted under the leadership of the AU and AFCAC as well as various policies and programmes of ICAO in line with the No Country Left Behind philosophy. This session would review these declarations, policies and roadmaps.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iPADIS – Set the Scene. Mr. Tefera Mekonnen Tefera, Secretary-General, AFCAC Mr. Prosper Zo’o Minto’o, ICAO Regional Director, WACAF State DGCA’s <p>*Note: Summary of all relevant continental declarations, roadmaps and plans are on the Event website as reference documents.</p>
15:45-16:15	<p>SESSION 2 – Pre-COVID: challenges and risks that encumbered development and implementation of solutions at national levels</p> <p>This session is a continuation of the pre-COVID situation. It would focus on the challenges and risks that encumbered developments and implementation of solutions by States, despite the political commitments to address challenges in aviation safety, security, infrastructure development, training, air transport and tourism development, passenger connectivity and cargo development.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Transport Expert in West Africa States DGCA’s

16:15 – 17:00	SESSION 3 - Impacts and solutions to Covid-19 challenges on air connectivity
	<p>The impact of Covid-19 Pandemic has further exacerbated the difficult position of the region when compared to other regions in the African continent. It would upend the recent modest progress in strengthening safety and security oversight systems, and the optimism expressed by States and industry on the expected positive impact of the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM), on air connectivity and traffic growth and overall sustained air transport development. This session would focus on the impacts and solutions to COVID-19 challenges on air connectivity in the West African region.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPADIS – Set the Scene. • Air Transport Expert in West Africa • ICAO (CART), • WTTC, • AFRAA, • ACI-Africa • International Experts • DGCAAs, National public Health and Border Agencies, Airline Operators, Airports, NGOs, etc.
17:00 – 17:45	SESSION 4 - Strategies and sectoral synergies that are required for air transport growth
	<p>Addressing the challenges of air transport in West Africa would require appropriate strategies including innovation and best practices, in addition to having sectoral synergies with other sectors of the economy including tourism, finance etc. This session would focus on identifying the necessary strategies and sectoral synergies that would facilitate the growth of air transport in the West African region.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPADIS – Set the Scene. • Air Transport Expert in West Africa • ICAO (SPCP, Innovation), • UNWTO, IATA, ITF, CANSO Africa, ASECNA • AfDB, World Bank, • International Experts, • DGCAAs, Airline Operators, Airports, ANSPs, etc.
17:45 – 18:15	Session 5 - Adoption of conclusions and recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion and adoption of conclusions and recommendations, towards regional action Plan
End of Day 1	

Day 2 – Thursday 18 March 2021 MINISTERIAL MEETING

15:00 – 15:45	OPENING CEREMONY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Welcome and Introduction by Engr. Hassan Musa, Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Aviation, Nigeria.- Special Remarks by Mr. Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary General, UNWTO.- Special Remarks by Dr Amani Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission.- Special Remarks by Mr Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of ICAO Council.- Keynote address by Mr Jean-Claude Kassi Brou, President of the ECOWAS Commission.- Official Opening by Senator Hadi Sirika, Honourable Minister of Aviation, Nigeria. <p>Importance of the meeting: - Dr Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, founder and President of iPADIS</p>
15:45 – 17:15	SESSION 1 – Presentation and discussion of the report of the Experts’ meeting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation of the report of the experts’ meeting held on Wednesday 17 March 2021 by Capt. Musa Nuhu – Director General, NCAA.- Remarks from Ministers on the report- Remarks and Comments by ICAO Secretary General, ACI, WTTC, AUDA-NEPAD Agency, AfDB, World Bank, WHO-Africa, etc.
17:15– 18:15	SESSION 2 – Discussion and adoption of Recommendations and Conclusions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion and adoption of Recommendations and Conclusions.- Adoption of the Communique of Ministerial Session and Regional Action Plan:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nigeria• ECOWAS• iPADIS- Vote of thanks from a State.- Closing of Meeting by Senator Hadi Sirika, Honourable Minister of Aviation
End of Day 2	