

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF WORKS, TRANSPORT, AND
COMMUNICATION, HON. PROF. MAKAME MBARAWA (MP) TO
MARK THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION DAY, 7 DECEMBER
2016**

Tanzania joins the rest of the world in commemorating the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation and the birth date of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) on 7th December 1944. As we are celebrating this day, we have managed as a country to be re-elected for the next three years as Member of the Council of the ICAO in the last Assembly, which was held in September to October 2016 in Montreal Canada. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Southern African Development Community (SADC) Member States, African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and other Member States who voted for us during the election for their support towards this achievement. 154 Member States out of 179, which voted during the election, voted our Country.

Chicago Convention 1944 sets the principles of international civil aviation development, and through ICAO has facilitated in creating and preserving friendship and understanding among the nations and peoples of the world. As a result, the world has recorded tremendous growth of the aviation industry. Air transport is now not only the safest mode of transportation but it has become part of the modern global society in driving its economic and social development.

The theme for this year's International Civil Aviation Day is: ***Working Together to Ensure No country left behind.*** In our own environment we want the aviation sub-sector development in the country to serve

every sector and accessible to all in a way that ***No person shall be left behind***. In the spirit of this initiative, the government is determined to see our national airline is coming back to business. We have procured two Q-400 turboprop aircrafts from Bombardier Commercial Aircraft Company of Canada, which makes a total of three aircrafts in Air Tanzania Limited (ATCL) fleet modernization program. There will be two CS300 jetliners and one more Q400 turboprop in the very near future as part of ATCL fleet modernization program.

While ICAO is marking **72** years, the United Republic of Tanzania looks at the industry, the way it has grown from independence to-date. Air transport growth has grown and become one of the direct and indirect contributors to the economy of the country. However, the growth is not directly related to the potentials the country has. We need the industry to do more than it is currently doing.

To facilitate the growth of the sector, Tanzania has adopted a liberal air transport policy within the framework of Yamoussoukro Decision (YD). Within this framework, Tanzania is working with its counterparts in East African Community (EAC) and SADC to liberalise the inter-State operations. With this liberal approach, the support of industry stakeholders and more investment into the industry will continue to grow at a much higher rate and contribute to the consistence increase in the air passenger traffic in the country as well as contribution in the support of economic and social development in the country.

While the industry grows, our country must ensure that safety and security are on top most agenda. We are aware that in order to bring about confidence to the international aviation community we are obliged

to build an effective and efficient safety and security and economic oversight system. It is for this reason that, we established the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority to oversee the effective implementation of the provisions of the Chicago Convention in the aviation sub-sector.

In order to effectively implement international standards and recommended practices (SARPs) issued by ICAO, the United Republic of Tanzania has translated the 19 Annexes to the Chicago Convention into National Regulations whereby all operators have to fully adhere to them.

While the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority is empowered to oversee and enforce the implementation of these Regulations and Standards, it is the responsibility of the operators, service provider and individuals within the industry to ensure that they comply with them. This is the only way we can continue building a safe, secure and efficient air transport.

The United Republic of Tanzania is one of the forefront Contracting States that is in support of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) and has participated in each stage of evolution of the programmes. TCAA is currently working to address the audit outcomes of the last audit done in May 2013 to ensure that the level of effective implementation of ICAO safety oversight system critical elements is always above global average of 60% and meets the targets set by the Abuja Declaration on Aviation Safety in Africa. ICAO will audit our Country in March and April 2017 and we are confident that we shall score the good marks and results above the global average as required.

On Regional participation in enhancement of Aviation Safety and Security the United Republic of Tanzania has continued to be an active

participant, particularly within EAC, SADC as well as within the entire African continent through AFCAC. Recognising that safety and security in aviation knows no border and that uniformity of standards is important, the regulations and standards in aviation safety and security are harmonised within the East African Community Partner States. This is also a facilitation process in implementing the EAC Common Market by having common technical requirements in the aviation business.

The State, through the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority, has continued to provide air navigation services within the Dar es Salaam Flight Information Region (FIR) and over the delegated airspaces of Burundi and Rwanda. In order to comply with international standards, these services are provided in accordance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS), as translated in our local civil aviation Regulations, in a quality, efficiency and cost-effectiveness by the application of the performance based processes.

In line with the obligation under Article 28 of the Chicago Convention, Tanzania is required to provide, in its territory, airports, radio services, meteorological services and other air navigation facilities to facilitate international air navigation, in accordance with the standards and recommended practices or established from time to time by ICAO. It is along this obligation that Tanzania has institutions established to provide these facilities and services in compliance with the established international standards. The Tanzania Airports Authority and Zanzibar Airports Authority deal with airport infrastructure and services on Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar respectively; while the meteorological services are provided by the Tanzania Meteorological Agency and the air navigation services are provided by the Tanzania Civil Aviation

Authority. It is the responsibilities of these institutions, and the Government in general, to ensure that the infrastructure and services provided matches with the development requirements of the nation and international air transport in terms of levels and quality.

In this regard we have a number of on-going infrastructure projects. Procurement of four civilian radars in this financial year is among those projects, which are aimed at ensuring air transport needs are addressed in terms of infrastructure and applicable services taking into account the future development within and at international level.

I wish the aviation fraternity very happy International Civil Aviation Day celebrations and request the entire industry to work together supporting the government initiatives to make the aviation industry contribute to the national goal in transforming our nation into a middle income and industrialised one by 2025.