

**MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL, TANZANIA CIVIL AVIATION  
AUTHORITY**

**HAMZA S. JOHARI ON MARKING THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION DAY,  
7 DECEMBER 2020**

***“Advancing innovation for Global Aviation Development”*** is the theme for the 2020 International Civil Aviation Day (ICAD) celebrations marked on 7<sup>th</sup> December of each year. Today, the international civil aviation community celebrates the 76<sup>th</sup> year since the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) came into being.

On 1<sup>st</sup> November 1944, delegates from 54 nations gathered in Chicago at the invitation of the United States of America. At this event, on 7 December 1944 the participants concluded and signed the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, popularly known as the *Chicago Convention*.

*The Convention defines* international agreement which has since then, permitted the global civil aviation system to develop peacefully and as a result hugely benefited peoples and nations of the world.

The United Republic of Tanzania ratified the Convention in 1962. In 1968, Tanzania was for first time elected a member of the ICAO Council and re- elected in the years 1977, 1983, 2013 & 2016. This shows that we have been part of ICAO for such a long time and indeed have harvested adequate experience and knowledge that have become important attributes to the prosperity of the air transport system in the country.

Since ICAO’s inception, aviation has become a cornerstone of human activities and socio-economic development. According to recent estimates by the cross-industry Air Transport Action Group (ATAG), the total economic impact (direct, indirect, induced and tourism-connected) of the global aviation industry reached USD 2.7 trillion, some 3.6 per cent of the world’s gross domestic product (GDP) in 2016..

According to the Aviation benefits Report 2019, in 2018, airlines worldwide carried around 4.3 billion passengers annually with 8.3 trillion revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs). Fifty-eight million tonnes of freight were transported by air, reaching 231 billion freight tonne kilometres (FTKs). Every day, more than 100,000 flights transport almost 12 million passengers and around USD 18 billion worth of goods. This translates to air

transport being one of the major employers in the world. In 2018, air transport industry supported a total of 65.5 million jobs globally. It provided 10.2 million direct jobs. Airlines, air navigation service providers and airports directly employed around three and a half million people. The civil aerospace sector (the manufacture of aircraft, systems and engines) employed 1.2 million people. A further 5.6 million people worked in other on-airport positions. 55.3 million indirect, induced and tourism-related jobs were supported by aviation.

However, further analysis by International Air Transport Association (IATA), covering the year 2019, depicts that the global air traffic has continued to grow with scheduled passenger traffic rising from 4.5 billion passengers in 2019 to 4.7 billion passengers in 2020 (pre- COVID19). However, the traffic dropped to 2.2 billion due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is expected to rise to 3.3 billion in 2021 because a number of air travel-related restrictions for the pandemic are being relaxed by countries around the world through at a small pace. The number of aircraft departures also increased from 34 million to 37.8 million during the same period.

Generally, the forecast is that scheduled passenger traffic will grow from 4.5 billion in 2019 to 10 billion by 2040 while the number of aircraft departures is expected to rise from 37.8 million in 2019 to 90 million in 2040. Aircraft deliveries are expected to be 16,397 between the year 2019 and 2038 which translates to an average of 820 aircraft deliveries per annum or 820 deliveries during the Plan period.

On the other hand, Aviation industry triggers and accelerates Tourism industry which is among the leading sectors that generate foreign currency in Tanzania. Figures show that the sector earned USD 2,131.57 million in 2016 and USD 2,250.3 million in 2017 which is an increase of 5.6 percent. In fact, aviation accelerates economic growth, provides jobs and increase revenues.

Apart from being an economic accelerator, Air transport facilitates the delivery of emergency and humanitarian relief aids like medical and food supplies.

On social aspects, the year 2020 has been a very bad year because of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries around the world have been striving to protect the health of their people by instituting various measures like travel restrictions, border closures and other public health mitigation measures whose consequences have been

destructive to the world economy causing to a large extent closure of airports and airspaces thereby shutting down sources of revenue for aviation community and its partners.

However, all players in the Tanzanian aviation system have been fighting and are prepared to continue fighting the pandemic in line with the national guidelines and recommendations from ICAO Council's Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) and initiatives of other regional bodies like African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) High Level Task Force (HLTF) and the East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA).

Tanzania is and will continue striving to ensuring that COVID-19 is not spread in the country and therefore not exported to other countries. This has been the spirit of the Tanzanian Government since WHO declared COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020.

As aforementioned, this year, ICAO and the global air transport community commemorate the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

As the theme goes ***“Advancing innovation for global aviation Development”***. This theme is favouring what is happening in Tanzania. Tanzania air space is now covered by radar after installation of four radars at Mwanza, Dar es Salaam, Songwe and Kilimanjaro, a project which costed TZS. 67.3 billion.

Other developments harbouring innovation are the completion of Terminal III at Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) and Instrument Landing System (ILS) in Zanzibar. The completion of Terminal III at JNIA has increased the capacity to handle passengers from 2 million handled by terminal II to about 9 million per annum (all terminals combined).

So, as we celebrate 76 years of ICAO, TCAA would like to wish all our stakeholders a happy International Civil Aviation Day.