The Secretary General of AFCAC participated in the Round table discussion session on "sharing experiences on liberalization of market Access" during the ICAN 2019 Global Aviation Premiere Air Services Negotiation Event in Aqaba, Kingdom of Jordan - 02 December 2019.

**ICAN 2019 - Presentation on the Implementation of SAATM**

On the sideline of the ICAN 2019, Aqaba - Jordan, the AFCAC Director of Air Transport Angeline Simana made a presentation on update on the implementation of SAATM to States attending ICAN 2019.

Also, on the sideline of the ICAN 2019 event, the Secretary General of AFCAC Mr. Tefera Mekonnen TEFERA and Mr. Abderahmane Berthé, Secretary General of AFRAA met with the IATA Regional Vice President for Middle East and Africa Mr. Muhammad Ali Albakri
The New President of ICAO Council assumes Office

Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano of Italy took over the Presidency of the ICAO Council, beginning 1 January 2020. He succeeds Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu of Nigeria, who held the position for two consecutive terms since 2014. The Secretary General of AFCAC had a courtesy visit with the President of the Council, Mr. Sciacchitano where his continued assistance was sought on the Regional Plans in Africa, AFI-Plan, AFI-SECPFAL and HRDF. The newly appointed Coordinator of the AFI-Group, Mr. Mahmoud Elhassan Mohamed Salih, Representative of Sudan on the ICAO Council, attended the meeting.

Consultative meeting

The Secretary General had a consultative meeting with Members of the African Group at ICAO and discussed issues pertinent to the Continent. The Group was provided with highlights of the Work Program of AFCAC 2019 and planned for 2020. The AFI-Group put a lot of recommendations to serve as inputs to the Work Program of AFCAC and reiterated its technical assistance to AFCAC.

Farewell Ceremony: The Secretary General of AFCAC, Mr. Tefera Mekonnen TEFERA participated at the farewell ceremony in the honour of Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, at the kind invitation of Senator Hadi Abubakar Sirika, the Nigerian Honourable Minister of Aviation, on 24th January 2020 in Montreal.
An interregional seminar on innovation and cybersecurity took place in Marrakech on 28-30 January, organized jointly by the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) (as the implementing body of the European Union-funded CASE Project), the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO) and the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC). The main objectives were to discuss recent innovative solutions in the field of aviation security and to review existing risks and mitigation measures in relation to cyber security. The seminar also allowed the participants to experience an interactive exhibition organized by ACAO, showcasing a broad range of products and services including the latest State and industry technology and process innovations in the field of aviation security. The seminar brought together 140 participants from 40 States, 7 international organizations and 15 industry stakeholders.

The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) convened the Third (3rd) Meeting of stakeholders on the implementation of the Joint Prioritized Action Plan (JPAP) on the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) in the Conference Hall of the Executing Agency of the YD, Dakar, Senegal from 30 to 31 January, 2020. The meeting was attended by 27 participants representing various organizations and States namely: AUC, AfBD, AFRAA, Representative of SAATM Champion (Togo), Representative of the Chair of the Ministerial Working Group (Mali), UNECA, ICAO (WACAF & ESAF), RECs (COMESA & ECOWAS), the World Bank, ASECNA, ATNS, EMBRAER Commercial Aviation, IATA Africa. The progress report detailing the challenges, progress made and the status of implementation of the 2019 SAATM JPAP was presented by the Executing Agency. The various lead agencies made presentations on their activities in the 2019 JPAP and their respective areas of intervention in 2020. The meeting after the review of the 2019 activities developed the 2020 JPAP taking stock of specific stakeholders’ commitments. In a first of its kind the Executing Agency following the request by the meeting developed an enhanced monitoring mechanism for the 2020 JPAP detailing indicators, baselines, targets and means of verification. The Joint Prioritized Action Plan for 2020 was considered and adopted.

For details, please visit our website @ www.afcac.org and check the section of the Executing Agency.
Africa World Airlines (AWA), the Ghanaian private sector airline, and Air Burkina, the national carrier of Burkina Faso, have announced a partnership to better connect passengers through AWA’s hub in Accra.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has announced global passenger traffic results for November 2019 showing that demand rose 3.3% compared to the same month in 2018.

Ethiopian Airlines CEO Tewolde Gebremariam has announced it will start constructing a new $5 billion airport later this year. The airport will be built in Bishoftu, a town 39 km south east of Addis Ababa, and it will have the capacity to handle 100 million passengers a year. Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa has a passenger capacity of about 19 million passengers annually.

ASKY Airlines will launch weekly service to the island of Cape Verde will operate between Dakar in Senegal. The service will be operated using a Boeing 737-800NG offering 154 seats including 16 in Business class and 138 in Economy class.

Rwanda has announced plans to abolish visa fees for citizens of over 90 countries to boost the Eastern African country’s economy. President of Rwanda, Excellency Paul Kagame, emphasized the country’s commitment to trade with the rest of the world.

Africa World Airlines (AWA) and Cabo Verde Airlines (CVA) are very pleased to announce a partnership to improve connectivity to West Africa. Passengers can connect seamlessly on a single ticket between AWA and CVA flights at Lagos, with onward connection to their respective hubs in Accra and Sal, and beyond.

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