H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AUC made a brief stop at the offices of the Executing Agency (EA), on Wednesday, 27th January 2021. The Secretary General of AFCAC, Mr. Tefera Mekonnen Tefera, briefed the Delegation of the Chairperson on the status of SAATM, full operationalization of the Executing Agency of the YD and other Strategic issues while expressing his pleasure to welcome His Excellency to the HQ of the AFCAC and EA. His Excellency whilst on a tour of the offices and fully furnished facilities of the EA, provided by ASECNA, was also introduced to the Director of Air Transport - Ms. Angeline Simana and the Head of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) - Mr. Jean Paul MATSOUNGOU - the Air Transport Specialist. The Air Transport Specialist also duals as the Project Coordinator of the USD 5.67 million AfDB Grant funded Project in support to the operations of the EA and operationalization of the SAATM. Also, in attendance and introduced were the two professionals within the PIU and Subject Matter Experts for Consumer Protection and Competition Regulation - Messrs. Emmanuel BUTERA and Octávio Oliveira. H.E Moussa Faki Mahamat expressed his delight with the progress AFCAC has made to give effect to the terms of the Protocol of Agreement with the AfDB and the institutional arrangements between AFCAC and ICAO, AFCAC with IATA and AFRAA and AFCAC and RECs critical for the seamless operationalization of the SAATM, as a Flagship Project of the AUC.
M. Jean Paul MATSOUNGOU, of Gabonese nationality, benefits from a great experience of 24 years in the civil aviation sector, in particular in the fields of air safety, aeronautical regulations and air transport. He has held various positions, namely that of head of air traffic and technical control, head of aeronautical training, director of air transport, director of aviation safety, director of operations and recently, that of advisor to the DGl of the Gabon CAA. He graduated in aeronautical maintenance with an engine cell option and is an Engineer in Mechanical Engineering. He has also carried out a number of professional and technical trainings in the various sectors of aviation. He is passionate about air transport and has contributed immensely in the region for the establishment of regional air transport agencies such as ASSA-AC. He has also participated in the negotiation and signing of numerous bilateral air agreements.

Mr. BUTERA MWESIGYE Emmanuel is from Rwanda with a wide experience in the Aviation industry ranging from Aviation Security, Airlines Operations and Civil Aviation Regulatory Management. He held different Management positions including Airlines Security Officer, Ground Handling Manager, Director Air Transport and the recent one being the Executive Advisor to the Director General of Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority. He holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) specializing in Project Management and a number of Professional and Technical trainings in the Aviation Industry. Emmanuel has a wide experience in consumer protection both at National and Regional (EAC) level where he played a big role in the establishment of consumer protection advocacy groups and development of regulatory tools like consumer protection regulations and caused the review of national laws to accommodate consumer protection articles.

Mr. OCTÁVIO Augusto Pinheiro Pires de Oliveira, is from Cabo Verde. He joined aviation in 2000, working for Cabo Verde Airlines, where he gains his passion to aviation. After that he worked for the Ministry of Transport and for the Economic Regulatory Agency. In 2008, he joined the Cabo Verde CAA, first as air transport technician and in 2010 as director of Economic Regulation. In 2013, he was nominated Deputy DG for Economic Regulation at Cabo Verde CAA, which he resigns last December to join AFCAC. He holds an MBA in Finance and he is Post-Graduated in Regulation and Competition and in Aviation Law. In Cabo Verde CAA he worked as expert in air services agreements negotiations, airport concession, airlines tariffs and airports charges, consumer protection, ground handling and slot regulation, and environment. He had been member of the ECOWAS Air Transport Committee and working on the implementation of YD and a member of the Expert Group of Ministerial Working Group on the SAATM since 2015.
AFCAC and the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) organized the first virtual course for 2021. This arrangement is an annual training outreach programme meant to assist African States and it is provided by Singapore Aviation Academy in collaboration with AFCAC. It is based on the MOU signed between the CAAS and AFCAC and over the years has benefitted African States through various aviation management related courses. As we all are well aware, beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the Global aviation activities and various training programs were suspended. Both onsite and offsite courses became difficult to deliver due to widespread travel restrictions that were meant to contain the Pandemic. However, in order to ensure uninterrupted capacity building programs for African States, the Singapore Aviation Academy (SAA) adapted the courses under this program virtually. AFCAC and CAAS will continue the development of similar virtual training sessions for African Aviation Professionals, based on the lessons learnt from this onsite course. The Secretary General of AFCAC Mr. Tefera Mekonnen TEFERA and Mr. Ng Tee Chiong, Deputy Director General of CAO of Singapore officially opened the e-Learning AFCAC-CAAS course on Resolution of Safety Issues, from 25-29 Jan 2021, in lieu of the face to face program due to COVID pandemic. This Customized Resolution of Safety Issues Course is one of the many courses that will be adapted so that they will be delivered virtually. The course registered a total of 22 participants From Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Comoros, Cote d’Ivoire, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Tunisia. Courses on Customised Auditing Techniques & Best Practices, 15–19 Feb 2021 and Customised Safety Oversight and Safe Return to Operations, 22–26 Mar 2021 are planned to be delivered during the 1st Quarter of 2021.

Speaking to the 8th Virtual Meeting of the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Global Tourism Crisis Committee on 21 January 2021, ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu, acknowledged that the latest measures to confront the most recent waves of COVID-19 transmission are weighing heavily on global travel and tourism. She underscored ICAO’s commitment to continue to collaborate with States, partner agencies and industry on the global vaccine distribution front, to develop further guidance applicable to current and future pandemics. Read more @ https://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/FR/ICAO-updates-Global-Tourism-Crisis-Committee-on-latest-vaccine-and-testing-developments-in-air-transport.aspx

The Bureau and the Secretariat of the AFACAC have the honour to extend their congratulations to Mr Raphael Kuuchi for his new position as New Director Government, Legal and Industry Affairs of the AFRAA. His tireless efforts while with IATA with top government, regional and industry leaders in driving key initiatives aimed at unlocking the full potential of the African Aviation Industry were very transformational over the years. More so, his contribution as IATA’s focal point on the implementation of the SAATM was constructive and we are sure that AFACAC will continue to benefit from his wisdom in this new capacity and look forward working with AFRAA and other aviation partners across the globe to deliver a safe and sustainable future for the industry in general and SAATM in particular.
AFCAC NEWSLETTER

Links to other News

www.africanaerospace.aero/hi-tech-way-to-keep-africa-s-skies-safe.html (05 Janvier 2021) The Agency for Aerial Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA) is an air traffic control organization based in Dakar, Senegal. It came into being more than 60 years ago and manages 16.1 million square kilometers of airspace.


IATA Calls For Balanced Public Policy Approach To Fight COVID-19, Unstop Air Travel - Aviation and Allied Business Publications (aviationbusinessjournal.aero) (12 January 2021) In its first COVID-19 press briefing of 2021, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has called on governments to adopt measures that will not stifle air transport re-start and recovery.

www.afraa.org/precision-air-launches-training-center (20 January 2021) Tanzania Leading Airline, Precision Air has announced the opening of its training center after receiving Approved Training Organization certification from Tanzania Civil Aviation.

www.africanaerospace.aero/ethiopian-airlines-and-djibouti-ports-and-free-zones-authority-to-launch-freight-transport-service.html (25 January 2021) Ethiopian Airlines and the Djibouti Ports and Free Zones Authority (DPFZA) have agreed to launch a freight transport service aiming to transport more than 400,000 tons of goods, mainly from China to Africa.

Ethiopian-DHL, AeTrade Group Partner To Transport Historical Parcels Under AfCFTA - Aviation and Allied Business Publications (aviationbusinessjournal.aero) (25 January 2021) Ethiopian Airlines-DHL and African Electronic Trade Group have partnered to transport historical parcels in the African Continental Free Trade Area. The partnership is meant to invoke the start of trading of the African Continental Free Trade Area market and the operations of the African E-Commerce Platform in the continent.