



FOCUS

**Standing Tall:
Festus Keyamo Steps on Board
as New Minister of Aviation**

SPOTLIGHT

**Awa Celebrates 11years Of Success,
Airlift 4 Millionth Passenger**



INTERVIEW

Mr George Mawadri, Regional Manager Africa,
TAAG Angola Airlines

ASANTE REWARDS

THE KENYA AIRWAYS LOYALTY PROGRAM

KEEP YOUR LOYALTY PROGRAM STATUS

Kenya Airways will match your current loyalty program elite status to the corresponding Asante Rewards elite status.

Request a status match on mail to:
asante@kenya-airways.com



SCAN TO ENROL

* Terms & Conditions apply



K Kenya Airways SKYTEAM
The Pride of Africa

Oct. - Dec., 2023
Vol. 7 Nos. 1
ISSN: 0331-8761

Editor
Ewos IRORO

Deputy Editor
Mary IRORO

Marketing Manager
Yinka OLANIYAN

Editorial Associate
Daisy BARRO
Ochuko EFERE
Olajumoke ADENIRAN
Tumininu AYERIN

Abuja Correspondent
Oyinlola ADEGUN

Port Harcourt Correspondent
Victoria ADELANWA

UK Correspondent
Shola SOGE

Design Consultant
Bayo OGUNLANA
Tel: 07069556407

Production Consultant
Samuel OSHINEYE
Tel: 08023404478

Financial Adviser
Adedeji ADEYEMI

Legal Consultant
Alero E. APO
Rosemary CHIBUIKE

Special Advisers
Elder Gbenga OLOWO
President, Sabre Travel Network

Publisher: Travel & Business News
Is published by Output Coefficient
Properties International

Please forward all enquiries to:
The Editor, Travel & Business News

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without the prior written permission of the publisher. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the facts and data contained in this journal, no responsibility can be accepted by the Editor or OCP International, for errors or omissions or their consequences. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the publisher. OCP International accepts No liability of any kind, express or implied, from or in connection with the content of this publication. In no event shall OCP International or any of its representatives be liable for damages of any kind resulting from the use of or reliance on any information provided herein. Readers are advised to seek appropriate professional advice regarding the application to their unique circumstances of the issues addressed in any article.

OCP International © Copyright 2023



Making History

Mr. Festus Keyamo (SAN) became the 38th Minister of Aviation having been inaugurated into office on August 21, 2023. Following his appointment, the Honourable Minister has hit the ground running and set a five point agenda for his administration. As the spotlight falls on him, we x-ray the challenges before him and wish him the very best.

Domestic airlines in the country are stepping up their games and making giant strides. Air Peace recently marked its 9th anniversary amidst opening of several new local and international routes and Overland Airways celebrated delivery of its first E175 aircraft. On the African

Editor's Desk

continent, Uganda Airlines launched services to Lagos recently connecting East to West. Similarly Africa World Airlines celebrated eleven (11) years of successful operations and airlifted its 4 millionth passenger. We also bring you an interesting interview with Mr. George Mawadri, Regional Manager Africa, TAAG Angola Airlines.

Young aviators also take center stage in this edition as winners emerged in the 12th National Travel Essay Competition (NTEC 2023). South African Airways (SAA) also held its 1st Aviation Careers Day for Secondary schools, while the Women in Aviation - Glowing Wings Chapter celebrated the girl child and exposed them to opportunities in aviation

Nigeria also made history with an all-female Air Traffic Control Crew nationwide to celebrate the World Air Traffic Controllers Day. We trust you would find the piece insightful together with our other news reports and update.

Ewos IRORO
Editor



Pg 15



Pg 16



Pg 22

AIRLINES NEWS

- Air peace Celebrates 9 Years/Overland Airways takes delivery of first E175 Pg 6
- Delta Airlines makes changes to Aircraft/Uganda Airlines Connects East to West Pg 7

INDUSTRY NEWS

- FAAN moves to address Bird Strikes/Falana demands reciprocity with respect to BASA on Lagos-London route/Women in Aviation Pg 8

FOCUS

- Standing Tall: Keyamo Steps on Board as New Minister of Aviation Pg 9

INTERVIEW

- Nigeria is a very important market for us Pg 11

SPOTLIGHT

- AWA celebrates 11years of success, airlift 4 Millionth passenger Pg 15

YOUNG AVIATORS

- UNN & Princeton college emerge winners of NTEC 2023 Pg 16
- SAA Exposes youths to careers in aviation Pg 18
- Glowing wings celebrates girls in aviation Pg 19

EVENT

- 3rd Avia Cargo conference: Experts proffer solutions to ensure sustainability of export trade Pg 21

SPECIAL REPORT

- Nigeria makes history on World ATC day with all female Air Control Nationwide Pg 22

CONTENTS

Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria



VISION

To be amongst the best airport groups in the world

MISSION STATEMENT

To develop and profitably manage customer-centric Airport facilities for safe, secure and efficient carriage of passengers and goods at world-class standards of quality.



Headquarters Complex:
Murtala Muhammed Airport, P.M.B 21607, Ikeja, Lagos
Tel:+234-1-280-0830. Website: www.faanigeria.org

Website: www.faan.gov.ng
Facebook Page: FAAN OFFICIAL
Twitter Handle: @FAAN_OFFICIAL

Air Peace Celebrates 9 Years of Robust Growth, Promises More Routes



Air Peace, West and Central Africa's largest carrier, rolled out the drums on October 24, 2023 to celebrate nine (9) years of successful operations built on a robust platform of rapid growth, seamless connectivity and service excellence.

As part of activities to mark the celebrations, the airline rewarded its customers with free flight tickets to destinations on its domestic network via social media trivia contests as well as in-flight.

Expressing joy that the airline continues to create significant impact in West and Central Africa's aviation landscape, Mr. Stanley Olisa, Spokesperson of Air Peace said, "Today, we celebrate our growth, from kicking off in 2014 with a fleet of 7 aircraft to becoming an aviation giant in West and Central Africa. But we could not have come this far without the support of

our esteemed customers and other key stakeholders whose efforts have been greatly instrumental to our success."

Speaking further, Olisa remarked that; "As we celebrate 9 years of peaceful connectivity across 21 domestic, 8 regional and 5 international destinations, we deeply appreciate our esteemed customers. Their patronage, trust and support have been the biggest drivers of our growth."

"As a forward-thinking airline, we shall continue to optimize our operations, modernize our fleet, and boost our workforce to deliver world-class flight services in the markets where we operate,"

he assured.

It is worthy of note that in year 2023 alone so far, the airlines has made significant milestones by launching flights to Mumbai, Tel Aviv, Lome and operated a historic flight to Antigua and Barbuda.

On that note therefore, Olisa promised saying; "We are not stopping. Jeddah is billed for launch on October 31, 2023. London is also starting soon. The E175s will start coming in next year. There is a lot to expect in the next few months. The flying public should keep choosing Air Peace as we continue to prioritize their safety and comfort.



Overland Airways Takes Delivery of First E175

Overland Airways has recently taken delivery of the first of three brand new E175 E-Jets with options for three additional aircraft.

The airline, which operates both scheduled and charter flights, plans to use the dual-class 88-seat E175s to increase

capacity on its domestic routes and expand services to regional cities.

According to Capt. Edward Boyo, Managing Director, Overland Airways, the new aircraft will supplement the airline's current all-turboprop fleet and, "expand our reach

and network. Overland has an ecosystem of aviation excellence crowned with its E175 fleet. With Embraer, we now have very flexible options to grow our fleet and capacity to meet all future demand."

"The delivery of Overland's first new

E175 marks the beginning of an exciting chapter for the airline and Embraer. Nigeria represents one of the fastest growing aviation markets in the world; Overland and Embraer are committed to the support of its continued success with a product line perfectly suited to build connectivity across West Africa", said Stephan Hannemann, Head of Africa & Middle East Region, Commercial Aviation.

Concurrent with the arrival of its new E175s, Overland is aggressively ramping up its presence in Nigeria with its new hangar facilities in Lagos, which is an Approved Maintenance Organization under the certification of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority.

Did You Know...?

On May 20-21, 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman—and the only person since Charles Lindbergh—to fly nonstop and alone across the Atlantic. Flying a red Lockheed 5B Vega, she left Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, Canada, and landed 15 hours later near Londonderry, Northern Ireland. Source: pioneersofflight.si.edu





Delta Air Lines Makes Changes to Aircraft, Schedule to Lagos Ahead of holiday Season

Following a record-setting summer across the Atlantic, Delta Air Lines has made changes to its flight schedule between Lagos and Atlanta, effective 4th October 2023, in readiness for the holiday season.

The Carrier's new flight schedule offers customers an early afternoon departure from Lagos at 1:00pm arriving into Atlanta at 8:55pm on the same day. The return flight departs Atlanta at 6:15pm and arrives into Lagos at 11:00 am the following morning.

Jimmy Eichelgruen, Delta's Regional Sales Manager Africa said, "Nigeria is a key destination for Delta and, with strong

customer demand between Lagos and Atlanta, we are delighted to offer more seats and a newly timed schedule between Lagos and the United States this upcoming holiday season. Lagos is a key destination for Delta and its leading hub in Atlanta is the world's leading hub and gateway to the Americas."

Delta is also making changes to its aircraft on the Lagos to Atlanta route over the Christmas and New Year period operating an Airbus A350-900 to support additional holiday traffic. Between December 16, 2023 to January 14, 2024 passengers will have the opportunity to experience the A350-900 offering an

additional 166 daily seats between the two countries.

Delta customers flying from Nigeria to the U.S. will continue to enjoy the opportunity to fly on full-flat Delta One beds, Delta Premium Select, as well as Delta Comfort+ and Main Cabin service. Customers can look forward to an [extensive food and beverage program](#) that includes thoughtfully curated menu options. All customers can enjoy a wide selection of in-flight entertainment options and stay connected with Wi-Fi for purchase and enjoy free mobile messaging.

Uganda Airlines Connects East to West Africa As It Commences Flights to Lagos



Uganda Airlines achieved a significant milestone in its strategic growth plan recently by commencing flights to Lagos, Nigeria on October 19, 2023. The Flight which operated out of Entebbe International Airport was heralded to a water cannon salute as it touched down at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Ikeja, Lagos.

Aboard the flight was a government delegation from Uganda together with an impressive load factor of passengers who had the rare privilege to experience the inaugural flight. Members of the government delegation were welcomed

with excellent Nigerian hospitality and presented with flowers.

Speaking at a media conference to outline the airline's presence and plans in Nigeria, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Uganda Airlines, Jenifer Bamuturaki, said that the goal of the airline is to bridge the gap between East and West Africa, significantly reducing travel times. She further assured passengers of

on-time performance, schedule reliability, comfort, and a great overall experience.

"This flight was exactly 3 hours and a half. That means if you are flying to Mumbai or Dubai, you don't have to go 10 hours across directions, you just come to Entebbe 3 and a half hours and you are in Dubai another 4 and a half hours. If you are going to Mumbai, you are in Entebbe 3 and half hours from Lagos, one hour in transit then you have another just 6 hours to Mumbai instead of spending 18 hours over flight," Bamuturaki said with excitement.

Uganda's High Commissioner to

Nigeria, Amb. Nelson Ochege, stressed the importance of air transportation in Africa's growth, urging African nations to leverage the Single Africa Air Transport Market (SAATM) to achieve the 2065 Africa Agenda. He said, efforts were also underway to promote technical cooperation and collaboration between aviation institutions in Uganda and Nigeria.

The Honourable Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Mr. Festus Keyamo was represented by the Director, Air Transport Management, Mr. Hassan Ejibunu. He noted that the decision of Uganda Air to fly to Lagos aimed to enhance connectivity and was in line with SAATM and the Yamoussoukro Declaration (YD) to liberalize intra-African air transport services.

Speaking further, Nigeria's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Yusuf Tuggar who was represented by the Director of Airport Protocol in the Ministry, Ambassador Oludare Folowosele said, "What we are doing today would lead to wealth creation, shortening of travel time from one country to another rather than depend on Europe all the time for flight connections."

FAAN Moves to Address Bird Strikes; Launches Investigation on Trend



Bird strikes are an existential threat to airline operations in Nigeria, and are still highly placed in the hierarchy of factors that disrupt airline operations in the country. This was the major concern of the Managing Director (MD) of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), Mr. Kabir Yusuf Mohammed at the 7th edition of the recently concluded Aviation Africa Summit and Exhibition held from 13 - 14 September, 2023 at the International Conference Centre in Abuja.

According to the MD, "The Federal Government of Nigeria is investing a lot of money in equipment that will help solve the bird strike problem. Our records show that we have paid about \$300,000 - \$400,000 to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to that effect, and our collaboration is ongoing. We have even started researching on the bird strikes trend, with the aim of determining how the phenomenon comes about, because bird strikes don't just happen. We also know that there are particular zones that are prone to bird strikes", he said.

Mr. Kabir went on to divulge that FAAN has already commissioned a consultant who is going round the airports in order to decipher how best to tackle the problem: "The way you tackle bird strikes in Abuja may not necessarily be the same way you will tackle it in Owerri or Benin, as your methods will depend on the geographical location of the airport in question", he noted, and assured that the issue of bird strikes will soon be addressed accordingly.

Nigerian airline operators constantly bemoan the problem of bird strikes, and for good reason, as the replacement of a single aircraft engine affected by the phenomenon can cost an airline up to \$3.2 million. This year alone, some airlines are reported to have experienced up to eighteen (18) bird strikes, and will no doubt breathe a sigh of relief if the problem is addressed as soon as possible.



Falana Demands Reciprocity with Respect to BASA on Lagos-London Route

Femi Falana (SAN) has cried foul on the unfavourable treatment of Nigeria's biggest carrier, Air Peace, with regards to the lack of enforcement of the Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) signed between Nigeria and the United Kingdom, and has demanded that British Airways and Virgin Atlantic cease operations into Nigeria.

The activist made the call recently

at the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Conference in Abuja, where he said: "If Air Peace is not allowed to fly to London, then British Airways and Virgin Atlantic should be stopped from flying to Nigeria." According to Mr. Falana, Air Peace has long demonstrated its capacity to operate long haul flights, as evidenced by those it currently operates, such as flights to South Africa, Israel, India and China.

Women In Aviation



Barr. (Ms.) Adefunke Adeyemi is the Secretary General of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) based in Dakar, Senegal. A savvy aviation expert with over twenty (20) years of experience, Barr. Adeyemi's

career began as a practicing lawyer in Nigeria. She later moved on to become Virgin Nigeria Airways' Company Secretary and General Counsel before joining the International Air Transport Association (IATA) where she worked for over twelve (12) years – her last position before her current election as Secretary General of AFCAC. She holds a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B. Hons) from the University of Lagos, Nigeria; a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Nanyang Business School, Singapore.



Standing Tall: Keyamo Steps on Board as New Minister of Aviation

The Appointment

Mr. Festus Keyamo (SAN) became the 38th Minister of Aviation following his announcement by his Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu (GCFR), a successful screening at the National Assembly, and inauguration on August 21, 2023. He however became the first Minister to head the Ministry since it was rechristened in May 2023 as the Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development.

Profile and Pedigree

Mr. Keyamo is a legal luminary with a well textured experience having been called to the Nigerian Bar on December 15, 1993 and later proceeded to the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in the United Kingdom where he qualified as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK). Until his recent appointment, Festus Keyamo served in the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs as Minister of State, after which he was redeployed to the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Issues at Stake

As the Minister settles into his new role he faces a number of daunting challenges. This became evident during the first stakeholders forum he held with industry practitioners in Lagos on November 4, 2023. Some of the more pertinent issues at stake include, but are not limited to the following;

- Nigeria Air Saga
- Airport Concession
- Forex Backlog & Scarcity
- JetA1 Availability & Rising Cost
- Infrastructure Deficit

- Human Capacity
- Multiple Charges & Fees
- Absence of MRO
- Multiple entry points
- BASA Reciprocity
- Aviation Security
- Incessant Birdstrikes

The Winning Strategy

Upon resumption of office, the Honourable Minister set some goals for his administration which he tagged as his five point agenda as follows:

1. Ensure strict compliance with safety regulations and continuous upward movement of Nigeria's rating by ICAO.
2. Support for the growth and sustenance of local airline businesses whilst holding them to the highest international standards in the aviation industry.
3. Improvement of infrastructures in the aviation industry.
4. Development of human capacity within the industry.
5. Optimizing revenue generation for the federal government.

Supporting the Industry

Within his first two (2) months in office, the Honourable Minister has so far made appreciable progress by meeting with the leadership of the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON) and tasking them to ensure global standards in their operations. He has also supported the signing of various treaties and regulatory cooperation within and outside Africa; as well as seeking for investors for the sector. Most recently, he showed his unflinching support for domestic airlines when he gave

his backing to Air Peace as the airline signed a deal worth N221.6bn (\$288.3 million) with Embraer to order five (5) E175 aircraft with plans to set up an Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility for the aircraft type in Nigeria. We therefore welcome the Honourable Minister and wish him the very best during his tenure.





NCAA



Safety



Security



Efficiency



Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority
Corporate Headquarters

Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport,
Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.
Tel: 97036029400, 08186301938,
08003489245



Nigeria Is a Very Important Market for Us

- Mr George Mawadri, Regional Manager Africa, TAAG Angola Airlines

Mr. George Mawadri is the Regional Manager Africa of TAAG Angola Airlines. He recently spoke with Mr. Ewos IRORO in Lagos on the airline's branding and marketing strategy to boost its visibility and performance in the Nigerian market and beyond Africa.

Q: Could you give a background of your experience in the industry?

I am George Mawadri and currently I am with TAAG as their Regional Manager for Africa. I have been in the aviation industry my entire life. I have managed British Airways for many years. I have worked in many different roles including being the

Regional General Manager for East and Central Africa for British Airways. After that I also worked with an Abu Dhabi based airline called Etihad. It was at that point that I was asked to come to Nigeria to manage Etihad as the General Manager for Nigeria, but after a few months I was elevated to handle the region, which meant managing West and North Africa for Etihad.

By the time I left Etihad in January 2018, meaning I was leaving Nigeria as well, I had been posted to Nairobi and Abu Dhabi to handle Etihad as General Manager for Africa. After that, I decided to seek a different career, still within the aviation industry, but from a ground handling perspective. So I joined National Aviation Services as their Head of Commercial, and



have been doing this for the last few years, until I joined TAAG again. This shows the passion I have for the airline industry. I have a passion for challenges and making those challenges work. That is where I get my satisfaction and motivation as well.

Q: What's your goal in ensuring that TAAG has a more visible presence in the Nigerian market?

Brand and Market awareness is very important. I'll start by saying that TAAG has a plan to be a very visible airline within the Nigerian market. However, as I mentioned, we started at a very turbulent time. Our first operation in Nigeria was in 2019, and you know what happened then which set us back quite a bit. So we had to suspend flights due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Then we came back in 2021 and we've started operations again. We have a plan for TAAG in terms of brand and market awareness. We've started today with the trade forum we have had. We have plans to involve ourselves in Corporate Social Responsibility, and also to brand ourselves within Lagos and probably grow from there to Abuja, Port-Harcourt and Kano as well, one day hopefully. We

plan on doing this systematically step by step as we move along.

Q: Having returned into the market in October 2021 until now, at least you can now assess the market. Would you say this is a promising market in your view?

I will say definitely, there are prospects, and IATA has already released a lot of information about the comparisons between 2019 pre-COVID and post COVID. There has been quite some growth in terms of volumes and travel from an aviation perspective, which is outstanding, especially after COVID where we thought the Aviation industry was completely down. Passengers still want to travel whether it's for business or leisure. And so we're seeing prospects and increases in the numbers as we move along. If we compare our current performance or numbers with pre-COVID of 2019, we can see a lot of increase. And this seems to be happening from month to month, which is a very encouraging and motivating situation for us.

Q: When you look at the markets you've been to and the uniqueness of the Nigerian market, which markets would you say give you your highest numbers,

and to which destinations out of Lagos?

Nigeria is a very important market for us in TAAG, specifically for my region, or the region of Africa where we operate in. We also operate to South Africa, which is another big market. Nigeria is also among the biggest markets that we operate to. Nigeria has always offered the volumes that you require in terms of filling up aircraft with the capacities that you have.

There's quite a bit of demand, and that demand is not only for TAAG and the aviation industry, but also for most businesses. *Nigeria always offers quite a bit of demand within the region and within actually the whole world. It's one of the countries that will give you the demand that you require. So Nigeria is a very important market for us.*

Q: Since you resumed operations having returned in 2021, what are the challenges you have experienced and how are you surmounting them?

One of the biggest challenges we're having is trying to convince passengers that you can fly after COVID, and I think every airline has been having that problem. Getting that actual confidence that aviation and flying from one point to another for a face-to-face meeting is still important other than meeting via Zoom

or by telephone. And in Africa where relationships are very important, we seem to see this coming back again.

The other challenge we're facing within Nigeria specifically is the repatriation of funds. The foreign currency situation within the country is not making it any kind for the aviation industry. It becomes so difficult for us to manage to repatriate our funds from the market into our head offices. Which of course these funds are required to make the airline continue its operational processes.

The other challenge we are facing within the market is that Nigeria requires a lot of relationship building. Since COVID, we have had to start all over again with the trade, with the agents, with NANTA, trying to build these relationships with our trade partners who are the agents. And this is the beginning of rebuilding the relationships with the forum we have had because we know these are the people who are going to be our channel of selling. We don't really sell directly to our customers. They are the ones who sell to our customers. We offer them the product and we support them to sell us.

So we have had challenges trying to revamp all this. It's like all the work we had done previously kind of went down the drain during COVID and we have had to get them back up. We have had to re-train the staff as well. During the process, we have lost some good staff and in some other ways others decided to go to other industries because the aviation industry was not operational. And so we have had to retrain new staff to do things so they can gain the experience in order to sell.

Q: You spoke earlier about the issue of COVID. Are there certain health restrictions that your passengers out of Lagos need to be aware of?

Concerning health restrictions, fortunately for us, just about two (2) months ago, Angola removed all COVID

restrictions. So you do not need a COVID certificate to travel to Angola. The second is the Yellow Fever certificate. This one has always been there. Even if you're traveling to Johannesburg with TAAG, you're going to need your Yellow Fever certificate. So the Yellow Fever certificate is still a requirement for TAAG. So it's good for passengers to always have their Yellow Fever certificate.

Q: What about the issue of visas and how do you hope to increase the number of visitors to Angola?

We've had quite a number of issues about visas. And as you can see today we've clarified that there is the non-grant visa which is issued online, and which is almost like a guarantee for you to travel. However there is a process that you have to go through. You have to go online and get authorization that you're able to travel. According to our team, it's very easy to do. You need to just go in, get that authorization and you keep that authorization. And then you can travel to Angola and you present it, and you will have no problems.

Q: Are you looking to have some campaigns and road shows to raise awareness in order to make TAAG more visible and grow the market?

We have a sales and marketing plan for every market that we operate in and Nigeria is not an exception. And we are going to build on these market plans from now to see what works and what has not worked and then build more on what is working for a particular market. This year, we want to test different things that we're doing in terms of marketing, branding and sales. We're going to build on that by the end of the year so that we have a plan for next year before the year starts; and for us to follow that plan; whether it's interaction with the trade, or interaction with corporates, interaction with government agencies, interaction with the chambers of commerce and embassies. How do we

interact with the Latin Americans or the South Americans or the Portuguese, Spanish or South Africans within the Nigerian market? How can we penetrate that market? So we are really working on plans to do that as well.

Q: You talked about your fleet saying that you're expecting six (6) A320s. When these aircraft come in, how do you hope to deploy them?

Right now we have a fleet, but the fleet is being stretched. And we are expecting to get six (6) A320s. But you know these days things happen, because after COVID, there are so many airlines that got orders with Airbus and even with Boeing. And these orders are being released slowly from the manufacturers. So we expect to bring in these aircraft to complement what we already have. What we already have is under tremendous pressure at the moment with the routes that we have to fly to. And these aircraft will be a very big welcome for us in order to become an airline that operates on-time without disappointing our customers and without having delays or disruptions so that we can gain more confidence with our customers.

Q: What is your message for the Nigerian market?

My message to the Nigerian market is watch TAAG. TAAG Angola Airlines is coming into this market and we are going to make a mark; not only for Nigeria but there is a mark that is going to be for Africa and globally. We have gotten into codeshares with Iberia in Europe which opens up many destinations in Europe for us. And then we have also got a new codeshare with Gol, which is now opening up other than Havana and Sao Polo where we fly, it's opening up the whole of South America. And then we also have potential new routes that we're looking at within Africa and we are going to be announcing them very soon as well. So TAAG has come to stay and we really thank Nigerians for supporting us.



FLY FROM LAGOS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES TO



TAAG

Linhas Aéreas de Angola

Awa Celebrates 11years Of Success, Airlift 4 Millionth Passenger



AWA Rewards Customers to Celebrate 11 Years of Success, Airlifts 4 Millionth Passenger – By Mary IRORO

Africa World Airlines celebrated 11 years of successful operations across its various destinations on September 21, 2023.

As part of the anniversary celebration, which was themed on awarding passengers for their loyalty, the airline organized a 'lucky dip' at the departure halls across its operated destinations in Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, Takoradi, Lagos and Abuja.

The lucky dip was to reward passengers with 11 free return tickets across its network to appreciate their loyalty since the company started its operations.

Head of Commercial, Mr. Jonathan Appiah said, this year's anniversary is to give back to the passengers to honor their loyalty and commitment to A.W.A as it grows to serve them well.

He added that, there are plans of operating to Dakar, Banjul, Cotonou, Conakry and Port Harcourt as well as to resume their suspended operations to Abidjan,

Freetown and Monrovia.

Speaking on the regional expansion, Mr. Appiah disclosed that, 'there are plans to acquire E-190 aircraft for next year. This is to help in bringing the company's mission which is to connect Africa to the world through the most efficient, safe and reliable air transport service' he added.

Some of the passengers who won the free ticket lucky dip include Mr. Adjei Emmanuel Abrah on the Accra – Lagos route; Mr. Muhammed-Shittu Abdul-Rahman Balogun on the Lagos – Accra route; and Mr. Idris Mamman on the Abuja – Accra route among others.

In a related development, the airline took time out to unwind and connect with its esteemed customers to celebrate Customers Service Week.

The Airline's Country Manager in Lagos, Mr. Kingsley Chima said, "The occasion of Customer Service Week gives us an opportunity to thank our wonderful employees who excel in the art of impressing our customers. To all our clients, we wish them a very Happy

Customer Service Week. We promise to deliver you the best of services each and every time. Our customers have been amazing all these years. Our loyal customers have been our strength in thick and thin."

Putting the icing on the cake, AWA recently celebrated the significant milestone of airlifting 4,000,000 passengers. On October 31, 2023 Mr. Rodney Olusola Adewole emerged as the 4 millionth passenger at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport. He received a resounding welcome at Terminal 3 arrival of Kotoka International Airport, Accra and was presented with AWA's miniature aircraft and four (4) return tickets to any of the airline's destinations.





UNN and Princeton College Emerge Winners of NTEC 2023

- By Mary IRORO

Lagos, May 29, 2023. Miss Merciful Nwafor of the University of Nigeria Nsuka (UNN) Enugu Campus and Miss Oyediji Moyinoluwa of Princeton College, Surulere, Lagos have emerged winners of the 12th National Travel Essay Competition (NTEC 2023) in the tertiary institutions and secondary schools categories of the contest respectively.

The essay topics include: *“Implications and Threats of Unruly Passengers To Safe And Secure Air Travel,”* for the Secondary Schools; and *“Curbing The Trafficking Of Illicit Drugs In Nigeria,”* for Tertiary Institutions.

Both winners emerged following a robust session of oral defense of their respective essays before a select group of Independent Assessors at the Grand Finale of NTEC 2023 which held on May 27, 2023 at the Interguide Academy, Toyin Street, Ikeja, Lagos.

The Panel was chaired by the Managing Director of Skyway Aviation Handling Company (SAHCO) Plc, Mr. Basil Agboarumi. He was joined by Prof. Effiom Uku of Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET); Dr. Ifeanyi Ogochukwu, MD, Aviation Africa Plate-Forme and Mrs. Victoria Adegbe, MD, Aviatrix Hub. Others are First Officer Paul Adebayo of United Nigeria Airlines; Mrs. Christie Oseghale, GM, Safety, SAHCO; and Mr. Godbless Ozege formerly of Nigeria Airways.

Founder and Coordinator of NTEC, Mr. Ewos Iroro said, “The topics for this year's competition were carefully chosen following recent developments and repeat occurrences in the sector regarding incidences of unruly passengers and increased levels in trafficking of illicit drugs through the airports which pose serious safety and security threats to the aviation sector and the nation at large with untold implications.





Merciful Nwafor went home with a cash prize of N150,000 and a free ticket to South Africa sponsored by South African Airways (SAA). In the same vein, Oyedeji Moyinoluwa was rewarded with a cash prize of N100,000 and a free ticket for herself and a parent to Accra, Ghana sponsored by Africa World Airlines (AWA).

Oshimade Abisola of Abiolu College, Igando, Lagos came second with a cash prize of N60,000 while Ademigbaji Favour of Sunshine Diamond College,

Ibadan emerged third with a cash prize of N40,000 in the secondary schools category.

Similarly, in the tertiary institutions category, Miss Daikpor Anthonia took 2nd place with a cash prize of N100,000 closely followed in 3rd place by Olatunji Deborah with a cash prize of N50,000. Both students were of the University of Lagos.

All the winners were also showered with various gift items courtesy of Peak Milk.

Participants and guests at the event were equally all treated to a refreshingly cold beverage of Peak milk as the events of the day unfolded.

Other sponsors of the epoch-making event include SAHCO, Sabre West Africa, Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (NSIB), Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) and OCP International.



SAA Exposes Youths to Careers in Aviation, Marks Africa Day

- By Etwos IRORO

South African Airways (SAA) recently held the maiden edition of its Aviation Careers Day. The event was held to mark the annual Children's Day Celebration with the aim of exposing secondary school youths to various career opportunities in the Aviation Industry while at the same time giving them a rare opportunity to meet and engage in discussions with the Management of the airline.

Addressing the children, SAA's Country Manager, Mrs. Kemi Leke-Bamtefa said; "Today we celebrate you, we value your

and offering answers to the students. They include; First Officer Paul Adebayo, an Airline Pilot with United Nigeria Airlines; Mrs. Kate Nnana-Ibemgbo, DGM, Air Traffic Management, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA); Mrs. Victoria Adegbe, an Aircraft Dispatcher and MD, Aviatrix Hub; and Mrs. Morounke Babalola, Cabin Services Manager, United Nigeria Airlines.

Others are Miss Annabel Elueni, Cabin Crew, ANAP Business Jets Ltd; Mr. Adetayo Oluwafemi Adetola, Head of Agency, Interguide



essence and contribution to our society at large. At SAA, we promise to carry you along in our journey to sustainability. Part of our effort in empowering our children is the SAA Secondary School Essay Competition and now the maiden edition of the SAA Aviation Career day for our children in Nigeria."

Speaking further, Mrs. Leke-Bamtefa stressed; "Our approach is targeted at improving the children's access to resources and to transform their consciousness through their beliefs, values, and attitudes. One of such access is this forum to showcase the career opportunities within our industry. We have airline industry experts in our midst today ready to share experiences and mentor our young people"

Several industry professionals shared their experiences and gave insights into their various professions while also taking questions

Air Limited; Mrs. Abimbola Aneke, GM, ALML Travels & Tours; Mrs. Mary Odimgbe, Supervisor, Ticketing & Reservation, SAA; and Mr. Pelumi Adebiyi, Finance Executive, SAA.

In the same vein, the SAA Country Manager highlighted the Africa Day Celebration which coincided with the Youth Day event. "Today is Africa Day, We all have so much to learn about our beautiful continent. As an African carrier, our expansion strategy is currently focused on Africa. Truly IT IS TIME FOR AFRICA. We recently introduced additional routes such as Lilongwe, Blantyre, Victoria falls and Windhoek in Namibia." she remarked.

Present at the forum were students from Abiolu Comprehensive College, Igando; Abesan Senior High School, Abesan Estate, Ipaja; Command Day Secondary School (CDSS), Ikeja Cantonment, Maryland; and St. Finnbar's

Glowing Wings Celebrates Girls in Aviation Day

– By Mary IRORO



The Women In Aviation – Glowing Wings Chapter Nigeria recently celebrated the “Girls in Aviation Day” by organizing a youth empowerment and aviation careers seminar with aviation themed activities and reaching out to female students of Command Day Secondary School, Ikeja Cantonment, Maryland, Lagos.

The day is a global event initiated in 2015 by the Women in Aviation International (WAI) based in Florida in the United States of America and is set aside to celebrate the girl child as well as expose and encourage them to follow careers in aviation in an effort to promote inclusiveness, change the narrative and boost the number of female aviators in an otherwise male dominated industry.

Welcoming the Glowing Ladies to the celebrations at the school hall, the Commandant, Lt. Col. S. O. Owoyeni thanked the group for choosing Command Day Secondary School to mark the 2023 celebrations. He said the school always takes pride in identifying with projects and activities that will further promote the educational wellbeing, growth and development of the students. “And today’s celebration with aviation professionals from various fields of expertise within the industry present to share their experiences and offer ideas on how to forge a career in the sector is a welcome development,” he remarked.

The President of Women In Aviation – Glowing Wings Chapter, Mrs. Evelyn Njoku shared her story with the students of how she came into aviation from a Public Relations Background working with the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) and stressed that “they could achieve whatever they decide to be in the sector once they set their minds to it and remain focused on their dreams.”

The students were exposed to various aviation career paths with presentations made by seasoned female aviation experts who shared their unique stories in the fields of Piloting, Air Traffic Control (ATC), Cabin Crew, and Aircraft Dispatch. The presenters include Senior First Officer Theodora Ndabai of United Nigeria Airlines; Mrs. Kate Nnana-Ibengbo, DGM, Air Traffic Management, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA); Miss Ndifreke Bassey, a Cabin Crew with Lush Purple Jet Services; and Mrs. Victoria Adegbe, an Aircraft Dispatcher and Managing Director, Aviatrix Hub, an Approved Training Organization (ATO) within the aviation sector.

A select group of over ninety (90) female students drawn from Junior and Senior Secondary School classes took part in the day’s celebrations. They were each also presented with gifts of free Mathematical sets to assist them with their studies and treated to refreshments.



**Nigerian Safety
Investigation Bureau (NSIB)**
www.nsib.gov.ng

PROMOTING TRANSPORTATION SAFETY



P.M.B 7009, Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja, Nigeria.
24HRS EMERGENCY LINES: **08077090909, 08077090908**

NSIB, promoting transportation safety.

f t i @nsib_nigeria

3rd AviaCargo Conference: Experts Proffer Solutions to Ensure Sustainability of Export Trade

- By Daisy BARRO



Aviation cargo enthusiasts have concluded the 3rd edition of the CHINET AviaCargo Conference in Lagos, where they met to discuss strategies that can be implemented to ensure the sustainability of the export trade in Nigeria.

The event which had as theme: *"Unblocking the Logistics Barrier to Improve Cargo Products Exports"* attracted stakeholders from the aviation and insurance sectors such as the Director of Operations at Omni-Blu Aviation, Capt. Kenneth Wemambu; the Chief Operating Officer of Ibom Air, George Uriesi; Managing Partner at Aether Consulting, Percival Uwechue; the Head of Retail and Digital Business at Royal Exchange General Insurance, Alfred Tabiti amongst others.

According to Capt. Wemambu, agro product exporters need to do more to increase their chances of successfully completing the registration process for their products, like ensuring that their farms are getting the attention they need, sticking to recommended practices with respect to use of fertilizers etc. "These aspects of the process need to be given proper attention if we want to prevent the rejection of our cargo by the authorities", he said.

On his part, Mr. Percival stressed the importance of collaboration between agencies in the aviation and maritime sectors to minimize time wastage while maintaining the quality of the goods to be exported. Such collaboration, he said, comes in handy when dealing with perishables like fish, which need to

be exported fresh - a process which could be rendered less worrisome if trawlers are used to transport the fish to cities with airports via which the cargo will then be exported. Cities like Lagos, Warri, Calabar, Port-Harcourt and Bayelsa were mentioned in which this sea freighter concept can be implemented.

According to George Uriesi, Ibom Air is currently looking at the option of "commencing a futuristic cargo facility by 2024" - plans which if materialized will greatly improve the export value chain by providing added capacity.

Shedding light on the role of insurance, Mr. Alfred Tabiti noted that even though insurance companies don't have the mandate to give out loans, they can still help to remove some roadblocks associated with the export trade by providing supportive guarantees to businesses, which is a key requirement to securing loans from banks.

The event ended with an award ceremony to honour stakeholders who are making an impact in the aviation cargo business as a way of encouraging them to do more for the sector and ultimately for the nation. Ibom Air clinched the awards for Best On-Time Performance Airline in Nigeria and the Best Airline in Nigeria for 2022, while individual awards were given to Capt. Kenneth Wemambu, Mr. Anny Chigbo, Mr. Basil Agboarumi among others, for their contributions to growing the aviation cargo business in Nigeria.

Nigeria Makes History on World ATC Day with All Female Air Traffic Control Nationwide

- By Daisy BARRO



Lagos, October 20, 2023. As part of activities to mark the World Air Traffic Controllers Day celebrated globally on October 20th, Nigeria made history by having an all female Air Traffic Control (ATC) Crew taking charge of all its control units nationwide including Area, Approach and Terminal Control.

The initiative was the brain child of most of the senior female Controllers with the first female Controller in Nigeria, Mrs. Hauwa Danboyi leading the pack by taking it up to the management to get the approval. Mrs. Kate Nnanna-Ibengbo, DGM, Air Traffic Management (ATM), Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) was then charged as the Planning Committee Chairman together with her indefatigable committee members who saw to it that the epoch-making event was a reality.

The unique event was muted with the aim of promoting inclusion and diversity in the ATC profession in Nigeria as well as to celebrate women working in the profession.

“We thought of a situation where we could come together and pool our individual strengths to have a collective strength and do what we know would project the core values of ATC in Nigeria,

but to also show that in our profession there is actually a very big presence of inclusion. There is diversity, but at the same time there is inclusion. So, there is synergy between the male and the female counterparts,” Mrs. Kate Nnanna-Ibengbo stressed.

Speaking further on the motivation for an all female ATC crew, she said; “As you can see, today it is an all female crew across the nation simultaneously. So that shows that unity in doing things together. So we just thought it wise to come together and do something that would show the trajectory of how things happen in other climes.”

Sharing her thoughts on the milestone achievement, Mrs. Ekeada Doris, DGM, Technical Evaluation and Manpower Development, Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) said, “This day makes me very proud because when I joined ATC in 1998, we were six (6), and now we are almost fifty (50). So I am very proud that we have enough ladies to occupy all the positions all over the country today. It is not just in Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt, we have Calabar, and we have Enugu. So ladies are in every station. It shows that what a man can do, a woman can also do.

“ATC is a male dominated profession and because of all the challenges involved and

the stress. ATC is the most stressful job in the world. And as women we have our families, our children, we are mothers; so for us to be able to do what the men are doing alongside all our other responsibilities, it is fantastic. For the upcoming generation, my message to them is that the sky is just the beginning. There is nothing you cannot accomplish. ATC is a proud and great profession,” she added.

Mrs. Atinuke Stanley-Kafu, a First Officer with Air Peace spoke on the uniqueness of this important milestone. “It just means that times are changing and it is very inspiring for me. Even on normal days when one or two ladies are on the radio, it's very respectful to hear another woman on the other side doing her thing and doing it excellently well. And I think this is an opportunity for other women who are coming into the aviation industry to be inspired as I have been inspired by other women who were there before me. This is an amazing day for all of us,” she enthused.

The celebrations ended on a high note with the ladies encouraging each other to gear up for bigger responsibilities with a commitment to keep inspiring the next generation of ladies and girls not just in Aviation, but across all other professions.



At Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), we provide safe, efficient, effective and economic Air Navigation Services to airspace users.

...we are indeed your reliable partner in the air



NIGERIAN AIRSPACE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Murtala Mohammed Airport. P.M.B. 21084, Ikeja, Lagos.
Tel: 08091542666, 08091542777, 08091542888, 08091542999
Website: www.nama.gov.ng

Your windows to a world of exciting destinations

Mauritius



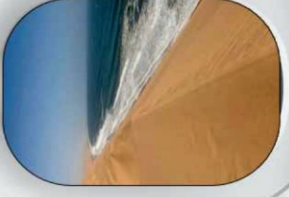
Harare



Victoria Falls



Windhoek



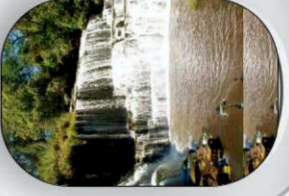
Blantyre



Lilongwe



Lusaka



Experience Nature and the beauty of Serene atmosphere on a Captivating Cruise while in **Mauritius**. Learn **Zimbabwe's** History and Heritage when you visit **Harare**, through Museums, monuments and galleries. There are no words to describe the stunning views from the **Victoria Falls**, you just need to see it. Choose between a wildlife safari or an unforgettable desert adventure in **Windhoek** or do both! Whether you're a first-time traveller to **Malawi**, or a seasoned globetrotter, you'll find something exciting to do, from doing business in

Blantyre to a relaxing time at **Lake Malawi** which can be accessed both from **Lilongwe** or **Blantyre**. Museums, National parks and cultural villages in **Lusaka** await those who love exploring.

Go to www.flysaa.com or contact your nearest travel agent.

Tel: +234 1 2702681- 5

Email: reservationslagos@flysaa.com



SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER