



THE TAKEOFF

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE
KENYA ASSOCIATION OF AIR OPERATORS

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NO. 1

The Inaugural Issue

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stakeholder
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What's Hot

Performance,
achievements and
more exciting
news!

Dear Members,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our first ever newsletter.

2022 was a year that saw the world of commercial aviation cruising at smoother altitudes after the almost two-year downfall amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Data from AFRAA estimates the 2022 loss in revenue to be \$3.5B, equivalent to 20% of 2019 full-year revenue. More importantly, the pandemic showed us all as an industry that we are not “pandemic-proof” and gave us a chance to come up with solutions to de-risk our services.

In Kenya, the industry is expected to make a full recovery by the end of 2023 on both international and domestic routes.

On a personal note

I want to share with all of you how honored I am to lead the Kenya Association of Air Operators. My commitment is to carry out my mandate with transparency, diligence and inclusivity as we steer KAAO to even greater success!

KAAO is officially on a trajectory of change, with plans underway to re-categorize its membership in-order to better cater to the needs of its members, the Air-transport industry and its auxiliary partners.

We believe, that increased collaboration with local and regional partners will strengthen our agenda which we will all benefit from.

As I bid you good wishes, I leave you with my personal mantra for success.

From the C.E.O.



Liz Aluvanze

“Any change starts from unlearning what you already know.” — Srishti Gupta

In the News

Zipline Launches First Ever Drone Delivery in Kenya

Zipline has launched the first-ever drone deliveries in Kenya from its Chemelil hub with the aim of bringing instant delivery to over 400 health facilities across Kisumu County. Zipline's footprint in Africa has seen it establish business partnerships in Rwanda, Ghana, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire and now Kenya where it seeks to carry an industrious technology driven transformation in the health sectors.



Ghana Airlines Eyes 2023 Launch

Ghana Airlines Ltd, is set to take to the skies in the 3rd quarter of 2023. Operating from Accra's Kotoka Airport (ACC). Initially it will fly domestically but the carrier intends to serve international destinations from ACC as far afield as LHR & JFK.

KQ Cargo, Astral sign codeshare

KQ Cargo and Astral Aviation have signed a codeshare agreement that will boost trade between Africa and the Middle East.

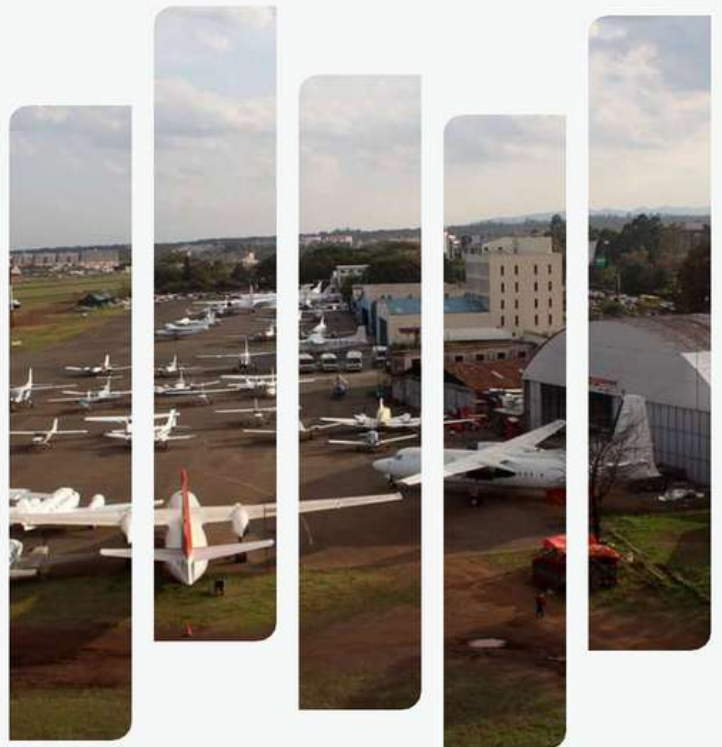
KQ will put its codeshare flight numbers on Astral Aviation flights originating from Dubai into Nairobi, for onward distribution within Africa. The agreement is expected to boost trade and commodity movement from the Middle East into Africa

The Kenya Association of Air Operators (KAAO) on 3rd November organized a stakeholder forum for its members to discuss the draft National Aviation Policy which is aimed at fostering the growth of the aviation industry by enhancing the Country's connectivity locally and internationally and maximizing the contribution of the aviation sector to Kenya's economic growth and development.

The forum led by KAAO CEO focused on sensitizing members by taking them through a presentation on the National Aviation Policy document. Thereafter, a discussion led by the Chairman Mr. Mbuvi Ngunze deliberated on key issues arising from the draft document with Kenya Airways also presenting a comprehensive analysis on the need for effective policies and regulations to guide the sector. Other emerging issues that the members raised dominantly during the deliberations included taxation and infrastructure development.

If you have anything to add to the National Aviation Policy, please feel welcome to reach us at:
admin@aviationkenya.org

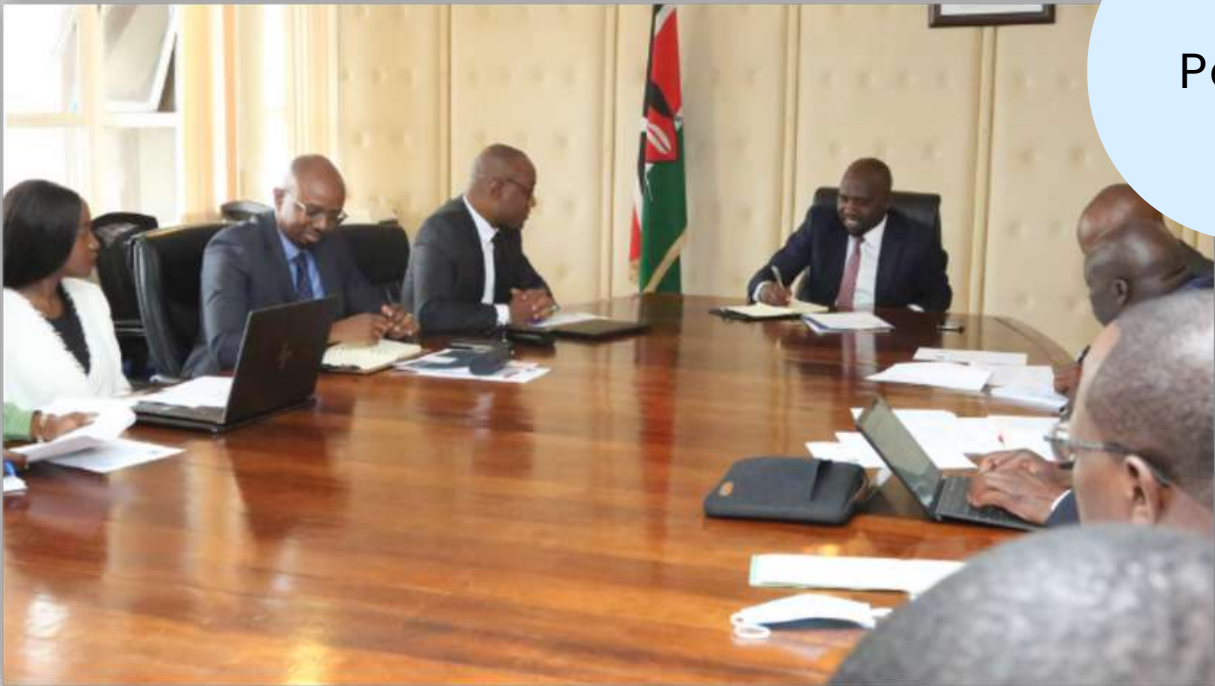
Stakeholder Engagement



Wilson Airport

Government Relations

Policy



KAAO, through the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) Transport Board, met the Cabinet Secretary for Roads and Transport Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen on 15th November 2022.

The association presented several issues including the:

- Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) & Open skies implementation
- Establishment of a stand-alone National Aviation Policy & implementation plan
- Review of Taxes imposed on Aviation (Aircraft, Spare parts, Jet Fuel, AVGAS) with a recommendation to adherence to ICAO aviation taxes policy.
- Development and maintenance of Strategic Aviation Infrastructure inclusive of (Airport & Airstrip terminal renovation, runways, storage facilities among others).

At the meeting with the CS, KAAO was tasked to draft a dossier on the effects of taxation on the aviation sector. The report was delivered as requested with a follow up meeting between the CS and KAAO scheduled for early this year.

KAAO has also presented its Memorandum on Taxes to the National Treasury for the 2023/2024 FY Budget for consideration.

We thank all members for their contribution to this!

Celebrating a Titan!



Farewell

*Col. (RTD)
E.K. Waithaka*

KAAO, witnessed the retirement of its longest serving Chief Executive Officer, Col. (Red) E.K. Waithaka after more than 20 years. Col. (Red) Waithaka, is a decorated military officer, who joined the association after his tenure with the Kenya Airforce.

It is under Col. (Red) Waithaka that the association managed to create industry cohesion and work closely with Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) and Kenya Airports Authority (KAA), Government Ministries, as well as other related umbrella bodies that impact its members' interests such as Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), Kenya Tourism Federation (KTF), Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE).

Following his retirement, Col. (Rtd) E.K. Waithaka was nominated as a KAAO honorary life member.

We at KAAO wish you well in your future endeavors Colonel!

KAAO Achievements



ONE

Overtaken increase in Air service license fees.

TWO

Overtaken the introduction of minimum tax which would see payment of 1% tax on gross turnover.

THREE

Review of the KCAA draft 2022 regulations to allow for further stakeholder input.

FOUR

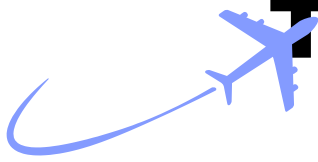
Negotiated with Wilson Airport Operator to stop the introduction of additional parking fees.

FIVE

Reaffirmed strategic partnerships with AFRAA, AU & KATO.

SIX

Revamp of KAAO communication channels



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You can now reach us with
your questions, comments
and enquiries **online**



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Kenya Association of Air Operators



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