

**SPEECH BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF UGANDA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY, MR. FRED K. BAMWESIGYE AT THE INAUGURATION OF THE CIVIL – MILITARY AVIATION POLICY BOARD AT THE MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT ON AUGUST 17, 2023**

**The Minister of Works & Transport,  
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works & Transport,  
The Representative of the Chief of Defense Forces,  
Aviation Industry Stakeholders  
Members of the Press,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am delighted to welcome all of you to this inauguration of the Civil Military Aviation Board and Committee members. It gives us in the aviation industry joy to see realisation of implementation of this high-level Board and Committee in fulfilment of the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

I add my voice in commending Uganda People’s Defense Forces and Uganda Civil Aviation Authority for the coordination, and final implementation of the Board.

It is worth noting that (ICAO) issued a State Letter with new guidelines relating Civil - Military coordination in Aviation, contained in ICAO Doc 10088, published in 2021. The ICAO East and Southern Africa (ESAF) regional office at its meeting held in June 2023, urged States to prioritize implementation of the new Civil-Military Coordination and Cooperation guidelines. Uganda through UCAA and the Military is committed to implementing this requirement.

In accordance with ICAO's mandate to ensure global interoperability and harmonization of the Air Traffic Management (ATM) operational concept, it is essential for member States to optimize their airspace usage for the safe and efficient movements of both civil and military

aircraft, within their respective territories and adjacent states. Safety, Security, and Efficiency being common values for both civil and military aviation, and the fact that the airspace is the same, operations need to be symbiotic, with each entity fully observing its own rules and functions.

Uganda has had Civil Military aviation cooperation since 1969. Air Traffic Control has over the years been jointly provided by both civil and military personnel since then and various forms of civil military coordination committees have been in place including joint recruitment and training of aviation personnel. The new development by ICAO is to provide improvement of previous structure we have had in Uganda,

Currently, the Civil-Military aviation Coordination Committee of Uganda is constituted by officers from Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF), National Security Agencies and UCAA at the level of Directorate of Air Navigation Services. The requirement under this new guideline, is that States establish a Civil Military Aviation Cooperation Policy Board (CMAB) and its constituent committees at a higher level to oversee the implementation of Civil-Military Cooperation and Coordination procedures. The guideline's stated requirement is at the chief executive level, such as Director General of Civil Aviation, Commander of Airforce and other key personnel should be in Policy Board and the Committees.

The primary objectives of the new civil-military requirements include enhanced safety measures, streamlined Air Traffic Management, Compliance with ICAO new guidelines and enhancement of National Aviation Security, among others.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The State is scheduled for an ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit (USOAP CMA), in September 2023, and formalization of this Policy

Board and its constituent committees is critical for our preparedness and will enable UCAA improve its safety and security rating. The audit will assess the State's compliance with international/national civil aviation regulations and provide valuable insights for further improvement.

Following, the referenced ICAO State Letter, a series of preparatory meetings has been held with the relevant stakeholders Civil and Military, where the requirements were discussed and a way forward agreed upon that Uganda to Establishes a Civil Military Aviation Policy Board (CMAB) and its three (3) Committees, comprising of representatives from civil and military aviation authorities, the regulator, and relevant stakeholders. This Board and its committees will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the new civil military requirements including compliance.

Hon. Minister, UCAA communicated to you :

- a) a list of nominees for the Policy Board and the Committees,
- b) drafted their letters of appointment, and
- c) proposed a date/today to inaugurate the Policy and its three (3) committees.

The Board and Committee Members will immediately have engagements after the inauguration, to discuss outstanding issues which had been included in the agenda.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to invite the Hon. Minister to address the gathering and officially inaugurate members of the Policy Board and Committees.

Thank you for listening.