

**REMARKS BY THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY MANAGING BOARD
CHAIRMAN, ENG. EDWARD MIKE NDAWULA AT THE RECEIVING
CEREMONY OF UGANDA AIRLINES CRJ900 BOMBARDIER JETS AT
ENTEebbe INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON 23RD APRIL, 2019**

The Guest of Honour, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

H.E the Canadian Ambassador

Cabinet Ministers Present

Hon. Members of Parliament,

The Management and Staff of Uganda Airlines,

Industry Stakeholders,

Members of the Fourth Estate,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today marks a milestone in the development and growth of the air transport industry in East Africa. We are here to witness a significant landmark that marks the revival of Uganda Airlines operations in the region's quest to improve the performance of this key industry and its contribution to the pace of our integration and growth of our economies.

I therefore wish to warmly welcome you to this function and to congratulate Government of Uganda and Management and Staff of Uganda Airlines upon this achievement.

Guest of Honour,

Distinguished Guests,

Civil Aviation Authority's mission and mandate are clear- to maintain the highest standards of safety, security and service in civil aviation. The Certification process of Uganda Airlines is ongoing and our central role is to ensure that the airline provides air transportation with the highest degree of safety possible in the public interest. When the Certification process is satisfactorily completed, the airline will be expected to comply with the applicable Aviation Laws and Regulations and the international standards pertaining to the operation of aircraft as required by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

CAA has been at the helm of this project by providing all the required regulatory support to enable the airline start operations and will continue to render all possible assistance to ensure operations begin immediately.

In an effort to promote air transport development, Uganda embraced the liberalization of air transport within the region in line with the Yamoussoukro Decision (YD). This has included Multiple Designation; implying designating more than one airline on a route(s) and removal of frequency

and capacity limitations, which implies that the designated airlines can operate as many times as they wish.

The decision by Government of Uganda to revive Uganda Airlines is commendable and a positive sign of growth of the air transport business in Uganda and a vote of confidence in the air transport industry in Uganda and the economy in general. Uganda is now part of a wide network within the region. I can attest that, more Ugandans will now be able to travel conveniently through direct flights at competitive prices, which will promote our peoples' culture, tourism and business regionally.

Uganda Airlines will be a beneficiary of the multiple designation policy as on the different regional routes. That the new airline will fly regionally using CRJ900 Bombardier, 76 seater aircraft is commendable.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is pleasing for me to be here to witness the revival of Uganda Airlines. On its part, the Government of Uganda granted us funds to carry out different projects for the upgrade and expansion of Entebbe International Airport. This was aimed at addressing the need of passenger traffic growth over the years.

I must report that the Airport recorded steady passenger traffic with 1.84 million international passengers handled at Entebbe in 2018 compared to 1.65 million in 2017, a 10.2% growth. Similarly, domestic traffic recorded a 41.9% growth from 18,824 to 26,711 while commercial aircraft movements registered a 10.4% growth from 29,327 in 2017 to 32,386 in 2018.

I cannot over-emphasize that with Uganda Airlines joining Uganda's airspace, we are optimistic that the number of passengers and cargo traffic will continue to grow.

I am pleased to inform you that CAA was recently awarded the prestigious ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems Certification by the United Kingdom Accreditation Services (UKAS).

Uganda is one of the eight African countries to attain the ISO 9001: 2015 QMS Certification standard. Considering that ICAO set a deadline of December 2019 for 60% of African countries to have attained the standard, is a good sign that we have moved ahead of our colleagues and in the right direction.

The Authority's five year Business plan covering the period FY2018/19-2022/23 is targeting growth in air traffic levels by at least 15% and

improvement in capacity for Entebbe International Airport to handle 3.5 million passengers by June 2023.

I wish to assure you that CAA is committed to supporting initiatives aimed at providing various options to facilitate travel in and out of this country.

The coming on board of Uganda Airlines is a timely and much needed development considering the need for faster connections between Uganda, and the region.

It is worth noting that imports by air recorded a 0.45% growth from 21,592 in 2017 to 21,689 in 2018. To this end, CAA has is expanding the Cargo center through construction of a modern 100,000 tonnes capacity Cargo Centre, expansion of the Aircraft Parking Apron, strengthening and rehabilitation of runway 12/30, and work on the taxiways, among other on-going and future projects as part of a 200 million US Dollar project for upgrade and expansion of Entebbe International Airport by China Communications Construction Company (CCCC). Some projects such as the on-going expansion of the passenger terminal building and the just completed re-modification of the Departure Immigration Counters to

increase their number from 6 to 11 are undertaken from internally generated revenue.

The infrastructural upgrade projects are aimed at ensuring that the existing and new air operators can enjoy world class services and facilities.

There is also on-going automation of systems at Entebbe International Airport as part of a US Dollars 9.5 Million grant from the Government of Korea through the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). A Terminal Operations Control Centre and training facility have already been erected as part of this project, which will also deliver a Computerised Maintenance Management System and Air Traffic Message Handling System, among others.

All these and other on-gong works are aimed at ensuring that air operators like Uganda Airlines enjoy a pleasant and memorable experience at Entebbe International Airport.

I reiterate CAA gratitude to Uganda Airlines for joining Uganda's airspace to enhance competition in the country's aviation industry, which usually leads to economies of scale and efficiency.

I once again congratulate the Republic of Uganda upon the revival of the country's national airline. I assure Uganda Airlines and all the other air operators in Uganda of our firm support and co-operation.

Thank you for listening.