

**REMARKS BY HON. JUSTICE DR. STEVEN B. K. KAVUMA,  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, UCAA AT THE  
INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023**

**The Minister of Works and Transport  
The Minister of State for Works and Transport (Transport)  
The Permanent Secretary MOWT  
Officials from the Ministry of Works and Transport  
Members of the Board of Directors  
Management of Uganda Civil Aviation Authority  
Members of the Press  
Distinguished guests  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I am delighted to be at this auspicious occasion, which marks the inauguration of the new Board of Directors of Uganda Civil Aviation Authority (UCAA).

I, first of all, take this opportunity to thank the Minister of Works and Transport for the trust and confidence that has been bestowed in us to execute the mandate of undertaking oversight over the Authority's business for the next three years.

I am personally destined to serve my second consecutive three-year term and I am pleased to have made a contribution to the transformation of the air transport industry and serving the people and Government of the Republic of Uganda. For this, I give glory to the Almighty God who enabled me and the other members of the Board who successfully served in the just ended term and played an oversight role over UCAA operations from 2020 to 2023 during a time when the aviation industry was adversely affected by the COVID -19 pandemic.

I would like to congratulate the newly inaugurated members of the Board of Directors, myself inclusive, for the task that has been bestowed upon us for the next term of service from 2023 to 2026. The Board is focused and fully committed to delivering the mandate as clearly stipulated in the instruments of appointment.

We shall ably play our role in supporting initiatives towards the growth of the aviation industry in Uganda, and will emphasise teamwork, which is one of the core values of UCAA. I warmly welcome the new members on board. Together, we shall ensure maintenance of the highest standards of safety, security and service in civil aviation.

**Hon. Minister**, as a way of briefly reflecting on some of the successes registered in the previous term, we are pleased that the Authority managed to improve the level of effective implementation of International Safety Standards, and upgrade of aeronautical infrastructure, among others.

One of the major highlights of the last three years was steering the Authority through the tough times of COVID-19 that adversely impacted aviation operations across the globe. This would not have been possible without the cooperation and support from you, and the entire Top Management Team from the Ministry of Works and Transport.

Uganda's aviation industry is now well on the path to recovery. The August 2023 international passenger traffic figures attest to this. In August 2023, Entebbe International Airport recorded a total of 191,507 international passengers, an average of 6,177 passengers per day, the highest passenger traffic to be recorded in a single month in the history of the airport's operations. While projections by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) previously indicated that African countries were expected to fully recover from the pandemic in terms of passenger traffic performance by the end of 2024, Uganda may attain the feat a little earlier, judging from recent trends, an indicator of good performance, which needs to be sustained through attraction of more operators to Uganda's airspace. We shall do our best to build on these to take the aviation industry forward.

Thank you.