



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN OFFICE**

**AASA/ACI AFRICA/AFCAC/AFRAA/IATA/ICAO AIRPORTS AND AIR
NAVIGATION USER CHARGES WORKSHOP
(NAIROBI - 29 – 30 OCTOBER 2024)**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY:
MS. LUCY MBUGUA
REGIONAL DIRECTOR ICAO ESAF REGIONAL OFFICE**

Colleagues and Friends

Dear Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the excellent results achieved during the two-day workshop, jointly organized by ICAO, IATA, AFRAA, AFCAC and ACI.
2. I am pleased to learn that the event was attended by over 80 experts from regulators, airports, airlines, air navigation service providers, ground handling companies, and other relevant stakeholders. I hope you observed and obtain experience that wide participation and partnership is vital during to build a consensus on establishing optimal aeronautical user charges.
3. I am also briefed that your discussions and deliberations provided extensive insights, drawing on the experiences of various institutions, particularly ICAO's guidance on policies related to aeronautical user charges.

4. States in our region, and elsewhere in the developing world, face a critical dilemma. On one hand, they need to promote the movement of people and facilitate trade, which requires setting service prices that incentivize growth and development. On the other hand, they must secure resources to improve airport and air navigation services infrastructure. It is crucial to strike a balance between these objectives by establishing an optimal charging mechanism that attracts more operators, while allowing for investment in modern airport and air navigation infrastructure to meet future demand.
5. In this regard, it is essential that States observe to ICAO's policies and guidance principles on user charges and taxes. I encourage you to advise your respective Governments and organizations to implement Assembly Resolution A41-27, to observe ICAO's policies on charges as outlined in Doc 9082, and to incorporate the four key charging principles of non-discrimination, cost-relatedness, transparency, and consultation with users into national legislation, regulations, or policies of your respective countries.
6. I am aware you come up with a number of outcomes including: -
 7. Assess and review the relevance and benefit of this and previous workshops and
 8. Continue the collaborated advocacy on ICAO Policies on Charges for airport and air navigation services in the region with a matrix of action items;

9. I hope this will help to track and monitor our collective effort and the result achieved over time.
10. I wish you all a safe journey back to your respective homes and look forward to seeing you at the next workshop on user charges or any of our relevant activities to you promoting civil aviation in our region.

With that, I declare the workshop closed.