



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA DURING THE ICAO MINISTERIAL MEETING ON FACILITATION 2025 – DOHA, QATAR

Excellencies,
Distinguished Honourable Ministers,
President of the ICAO Council,
Secretary General of ICAO,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with honor and deep appreciation that I represent the Republic of Namibia at this Ministerial Meeting on Facilitation, held under the auspices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), here in the State of Qatar. I commend ICAO and our host country for the timely and strategic convening of this meeting, which comes at a critical juncture for global civil aviation.

Namibia aligns itself with the collective voice of Africa and reiterates its full support for the commitments reaffirmed during this Facilitation Conference, particularly those enshrined in ICAO Assembly Resolutions A41-11 through A41-17. These resolutions reflect a robust and forward-thinking vision for global facilitation, and their practical implementation will be vital to ensuring a safer, more resilient, and inclusive international air transport system.

Excellencies,

We recognize the essential role that facilitation plays in enhancing connectivity, supporting trade and tourism, and driving sustainable development. In Africa, this role is even more vital. Africa continues to face pressing challenges in border management, traveler identification, infrastructure limitations, and capacity constraints — yet we also see immense opportunities. With the implementation of

the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) and Agenda 2063, air transport plays a crucial role in unlocking Africa's economic potential.

In Namibia, we have undertaken tangible reforms to align our national framework with ICAO's Annex 9 — Facilitation. Amongst others, we are prioritizing:

- Strengthening inter-agency coordination among aviation, immigration, customs, and public health authorities by ensuring that the National Air Transport Facilitation Programme is aligned with ICAO policies.
- The Government of the Republic of Namibia has issued Advance Passenger Information/ Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) and Public key Directory (PKD) were issued to aid in Namibia's digital transformation of our border control systems in line with the ICAO Traveler Identification Programme (TRIP) Strategy;
- Enhancing the accessibility of air transport for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility;
- And implementing mechanisms to ensure dignity, care, and assistance for victims of aviation accidents and their families.

Moreover, Namibia has taken steps to issue machine-readable Convention Travel Documents (CTDs) for refugees and stateless persons, and we continue to engage with stakeholders towards the ratification of key international instruments such as the Montreal Convention of 1999, which was ratified on 27 September 2001 and the revised Kyoto Convention which was amended and ratified on the 26th of March 2004.

Excellencies,

We must recognize that facilitation is not a secondary pillar—it is an indispensable enabler of safety, security, and sustainable development. It is what links aviation with the broader goals of economic integration, trade facilitation, and people-to-people connectivity, particularly in Africa, where air transport is a key driver of regional development under frameworks such as the African Union's Agenda 2063 and SAATM.

Moving forward, Let's continue working together to craft a facilitation system that is people-centered, future-proof, technologically advanced, and deeply rooted in international solidarity. Namibia is committed to collaborating with ICAO, AFCAC, and all global partners to develop a facilitation framework that is secure, inclusive, and future-ready.

I Thank you.