



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

**REMARKS BY THE HON. MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT OF
UGANDA, HON. GENERAL EDWARD KATUMBA WAMALA, AT THE
ICAO FACILITATION CONFERENCE 2025 IN DOHA, QATAR**

- **Your Excellencies, Ministers**
- **President of ICAO Council**
- **The Secretary General of ICAO**
- **Heads of Delegations**
- **Delegates**
- **Representatives of International Organizations**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is an honour to address this ICAO Facilitation Conference 2025, and to bring you greetings from the People of Uganda.

I wish to thank the Government of the State of Qatar for hosting this important Conference and for the hospitality accorded to us since our arrival in this beautiful city of Doha.

ICAO and the State of Qatar are strongly commended for organizing this event. It has given the aviation community an excellent opportunity to share best practices to enhance facilitation for the quick and smooth movement of passengers and goods across the world without compromising safety, security and efficiency. We thank you the various panelists who readily shared vast knowledge and experiences in the field of facilitation.

Uganda is a beautiful Country which offers amazing range of tourist attraction while in respect of international trade, it exports significant volumes of cut flowers, fruits and fresh fish. All these sectors of the economy require fast and reliable air transport services. Therefore, in order to exploit its abundant tourism potential and trade opportunities, Uganda has included the implementation of Annex 9 provisions in its strategic priorities.

The notable achievements in Facilitation include:

Guided by ICAO provisions in Document 9303, Uganda has Implemented ICAO Traveler Identification Programme Strategy. In 2018, we started issuing e-passports and in 2019, joined ICAO PKD and Uganda is currently a PKD Board Member.

To enhance the experience of particularly foreign travellers, Uganda has established a very relaxed visa regime. Citizens of several countries do not need visas to visit Uganda while those that need the visa, can get an e-visa through a simple online application.

For the smooth and fast flow of passengers through Entebbe International Airport, the Government is progressively implementing Automated Border Control and self-check in kiosks, but we are eager to learn from other States to improve the system and we are taking valuable tips from this event.

Uganda has expanded and modernized the passenger terminals at the Airport and created additional duty-free shops and restaurants. Similarly, a large modern cargo terminal has been constructed to improve cargo processing systems.

Uganda has established established effective National Air Transport Facilitation Committee and National Aviation Security Committee.

The Committees have streamlined cooperation, collaboration and decision-making among State Agencies responsible for security and facilitation.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Outcomes of above interventions include sustained significant annual growth rate of passenger and cargo traffic. Last year, Uganda achieved a score of 81.6% from ICAO audit under the Universal Security Audit Programme which demonstrated effective implementation of Facilitation provisions.

The Government will continue to assess needs and expectations of air transport users and establish appropriate facilities and services to ensure customer satisfaction at the airports.

Once again, I extend special thanks to ICAO and the development partners for collaboration and support for the sustainable growth of aviation in Uganda.

Finally, Uganda reaffirms its commitment to the implementation of ICAO Annex 9 - Facilitation Standards and Recommended Practices and remains open for strategic partnerships to foster regional and international seamless air travel.

Thank you for your attention.