

# AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION COMMISSION (AFCAC)



## YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION (YD) AND THE FUTURE OF AFRICAN AIR TRANSPORT



BY

**THE SECRETARY GENERAL**  
**(Iyabo o. Sosina)**

**ICAN 2013**

## INTRODUCTION



- ❑ AIR TRANSPORT IN AFRICA OVER THE PAST DECADE HAS INCREASED BY 6.6%, MAKING IT THE MOST RAPID GROWTH REGION AFTER THE MIDDLE EAST.
- ❑ AVIATION HAS REMAINED A VERITABLE TOOL FOR THE GROWTH OF BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN AFRICA.



# INTRODUCTION



- THE FUTURE OF AVIATION IN AFRICA IS POSITIVE AND BRIGHT.**
- HOWEVER, WITH OVER ONE (1) BILLION PEOPLE, AFRICA ACCOUNTS FOR ONLY 3% OF WORLD TRAFFIC IN 2008 DESPITE THE LACK OF REAL ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF TRANSPORT ATION AND THE HARSH PHYSICAL TERRAIN.**
- AVIATION IN AFRICA IS THEREFORE AN INVESTMENT PARADISE FOR INVESTORS.**

# THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION



- ❑ **THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECLARATION OF OCTOBER, 1988 WAS THEREFORE AN AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION POLICY GEARED TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE REFORM OF THE AIR TRANSPORT INDUSTRY AND THE UNIFICATION OF THE FRAGMENTED AFRICAN AIR TRANSPORT MARKET.**
  
- ❑ **THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION OF NOVEMBER, 1999 LIBERALIZED INTRA AFRICAN AIR TRANSPORT MARKETS WITH MINIMUM GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION.**



# FRAMEWORK OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION



- ❑ **THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION WHICH AIMED FOR FULL LIBERALIZATION INITIALLY BY 2002 AND LATER SHIFTED TO 2006, REMOVED ALL RESTRICTIONS ON:**
  - ✓ **TRAFFIC RIGHTS INCLUDING FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC;**
  - ✓ **CAPACITY BETWEEN CITY PAIRS;**
  - ✓ **NON-REGULATION OF TARIFF BY GOVERNMENTS;**
  - ✓ **MULTIPLE DESIGNATION AND FREQUENCIES; AMONG OTHERS.**
- ❑ **AIMS TO STRENGTHEN SAFETY AND SECURITY OVERSIGHT ON THE CONTINENT.**
- ❑ **TRIES TO PROMOTE A CLIMATE OF COOPERATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS, MERGERS AND CONSORTIUMS.**

# FRAMEWORK OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION



- STRIVES TO INITIATE THE EMERGENCE OF STRONG REGIONAL AIRLINES.
- TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETITION REGULATIONS & DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM.
- ADVOCATED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXECUTING AGENCY.



# FRAMEWORK OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION



- THE IMPLEMENTATION TARGET OF 2006 FOR THE FULL LIBERALIZATION OF AIR TRANSPORT IN AFRICA UNDER THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION IS HOWEVER YET TO BE ATTAINED.**

# YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION: THE JOURNEY SO FAR



- ❑ THE EMERGENCE OF AFCAC AS THE EXECUTING AGENCY OF THE YD;
- ❑ THE REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS UNDER THE YD ESPECIALLY 5<sup>TH</sup> FREEDOM TRAFFIC RIGHTS HAVE:
  - ✓ INCREASED INTRA AFRICA CITY PAIRING AND PASSENGER TRAFFIC IN THE REGION.
  - ✓ CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES ARE BEING CONNECTED BY DIRECT FLIGHTS.
  - ✓ INCREASED COOPERATION IN AIRLINE OPERATIONS: CODE-SHARING AND CROSS-BORDER INVESTMENTS.



# YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION: THE JOURNEY SO FAR



- THE YD HAS LED TO THE STRENGTHENING OF AVIATION INITIATIVES IN AIR TRANSPORT IN THE REGIONAL GROUPINGS SUCH AS IN SADC, COMESA, ECOWAS, EAC, ETC AND THE EMERGENCE OF STRONG AVIATION SUB-REGIONAL GROUPINGS SUCH AS UEMOA, BAG, CEMAC, ETC;**
- IMPROVED LIBERALIZATION WITHIN THESE REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND ARRANGEMENTS.**

# **YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION: THE JOURNEY SO FAR**



- THE REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL GROUPS HAVE CREATED PLATFORMS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY INITIATIVES SUCH AS THE COSCAPS AND REGIONAL SAFETY OVERSIGHT ORGANIZATIONS.**
  
- INDIRECTLY, THE YD HAS CREATED THE AVENUE FOR INCREASED REGIONAL CONSULTATION AND DECISION-MAKING FORA ON MATTERS OF AIR TRANSPORT.**

# **YAMO USSOUKRO DECISION: THE JOURNEY SO FAR**



- THERE HAVE BEEN CONTINUOUS EFFORTS FROM THE AU, AFCAC, AFRAA, SOME RECS, THE MONITORING BODY OF THE YD AND SOME STATES TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING YD.**
- THERE WERE ALSO GOOD INITIATIVES SUCH AS PEERS REVIEW MECHANISMS BY NEPAD AND CLUB OF THE READY AND WILLING (CREW) BY AFRAA FOR THE ACCELERATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF YD.**

# CHALLENGES OF THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF YD



- DIFFERENCES IN MACRO-ECONOMIC POLICIES AND STRATEGIES BETWEEN STATES.**
- DIFFERENCES IN THE LEVEL OF AVIATION DEVELOPMENT.**
- DEEP CONCERNS REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL STATE'S INTERESTS.**



# CHALLENGES OF FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE YD

- LACK OF A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR AIRLINES WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTIONS.**
- CHALLENGES IN TERMS OF SAFETY, SECURITY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ESPECIALLY FROM THE REGULATORY POINT OF VIEW.**



# **YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION: THE WAY FORWARD**

- INSUFFICIENT COMMITMENT FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS ON THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF YD;**
- MORE PARTICULARLY, LACK OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENTS NECESSARY TO DRIVE THE PROCESS;**



# **YAMO USSOUKRO DECISION: THE WAY FORWARD**

- STRONGER POLITICAL WILL AND COMMITMENT FROM STATES REMAIN CRITICAL ELEMENTS FOR THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF YD;**
- WIN, WIN ATTITUDE IS REQUIRED BY THE STRONG AFRICAN CARRIERS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION AMONG THEM AND SOCIAL BENEFITS TO STATES WITH WEAK CARRIERS OR NO AIRLINES AT ALL;**

# **YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION: THE WAY FORWARD**



**The need for AU and AFCAC to fast track the conclusion of the continental Competition Rules, Dispute Settlement Mechanism and Consumer Protection Regulations;**



# CONCLUSION

- **The full implementation of YD will guarantee the following for the future of air transport in Africa:**
  - ✓ **Creation of larger markets for carriers.**
  - ✓ **Optimal use of existing capacities.**
  - ✓ **Improved access to capital.**
  - ✓ **Better equipped airlines with improved brands to compete favourably with stronger States or block of States from outside of the continent..**



# CONCLUSION

- **AFCAC (AS THE EXECUTING AGENCY OF YD) WILL CONTINUE TO AND WILL IN FACT EMBARK ON A MORE AGGRESSIVE CAMPAIGN TO SENSITIZE AND CREATE AWARENESS AMONG STAKEHOLDERS ON THE BENEFITS OF LIBERALIZATION (YD).**



**THANK YOU!**