



Blessing Kawai

Assistant Director Africa, Safety & Flight Operations, IATA

Mr. Blessing Kawai joined the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in 2008 and is the Assistant Director Safety & Flight Operations for Africa & Indian Ocean (AFI). In his current role he is mainly responsible for driving regional safety initiatives and programs in line with IATA's global and regional strategies.

Mr. Kawai anchored his career in aviation 27 years ago by studying Aeronautical Engineering and majoring in Avionics, attaining his license and then moved onto Safety and Quality Auditing and finally Flight Safety Management. He has worked as a Human Factors Instructor before finally joining IATA.

Mr. Kawai has previously chaired and headed regional and international safety bodies in the airline industry; namely, Africa and Indian Ocean Safety Enhancement Team (ASET) and Africa Aviation Safety Council. He is a key member on the Steering Committee of the ICAO Regional Aviation Safety Group in Africa & Indian Ocean (RASG –AFI) and chairs the Annual Safety report team.

Mr. Kawai is a holder of Higher Diploma in Avionics Maintenance and has studied Aviation Safety Management with IATA and at the University of Southern California. He has also graduated in Transport Management and in Logistics from the University of South Africa.