

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief

Ms. Eunice Akro

Editor:

Sani Datti

Sub-Editor:

Mr Nawani Abdulahad

Correspondents:

Christiana N. Johnson

Ejiro Barne

Cameraman:

Rufai Kolawole Rasheed

Special Asst., Public Affairs

James Odaudu, PhD

HIGHLIGHTS

Pg 3 ▶ Rainy Season: NCAA Cautions Pilots and Airlines over Hazardous Weather

Pg 4 ▶ President Buhari Assures ICAO that Nigeria will Sustain Investments in Aviation Safety and Security

Pg 5 ▶ NAMA Designs Flight Maps for Pilots and Aircraft Locally

Pg 5 ▶ FAAN Inaugurates App For Airport Taxi

Pg 7 ▶ FG to Assist more African Countries to Advance in Meteorology

Pg 7 ▶ AON Accedes to a Call from the Government, Suspends Action in Good Fate

7TH (AFI) AVIATION WEEK: MINISTER CANVASSES EFFICIENT AIR TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR AFRICA

...seeks for reviving of ICAO's Human Resource Development Fund (HRDF)



■ The Hon. Minister of Aviation, Sen. Hadi Sirika (L) with NCAA DG, Capt. Musa Nuhu (3rd R) in a group photograph with other eminent dignitaries at the opening ceremony of the 7th AFI Region Conference held on Monday-16th May, 2022 in Abuja, Nigeria

The Minister of Aviation, Sen. Hadi Sirika has canvassed for a safe, secure and efficient air transport system across African countries. Sirika made the call during his keynote address at the opening ceremony of Seventh Africa Flight Information (AFI) Aviation Week hosted by Nigeria in

collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). He said such a move will serve as a natural impetus for the socio-economic development of the region and a means to support trade and tourism.

"Nigeria's determination to host this

contd. in pg 2

NIGERIA SIGNS MOU WITH SIERRA LEONE, AND RWANDA FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Nigeria has signed Memorandums of Understandings, MoUs with Sierra Leone and Rwanda for technical support to enhance the safety and security of Civil Aviation in the region.

The MoUs were signed by Nigeria's Director General, Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority, NCAA, Captain Musa Nuhu and representatives of the two countries at the opening ceremony of the African-Ocean 7th Conference in Abuja.

contd. in pg 3



■ The Director General, Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority, NCAA, Captain Musa Nuhu and his Rwanda counterpart signing the MoU at the 7th AFI Aviation Week in Abuja.

...7TH (AFI) AVIATION WEEK: MINISTER CANVASSES EFFICIENT AIR TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR AFRICA

contd. from pg 1

meeting is borne out of the desire to support the growth of air transport in the region. "It is also a part of ICAO's efforts in facilitating the recovery process of the industry from the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is why this meeting is important to review the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and to take cognizance of digitalization and innovation which are now being highly embraced by the industry," he said.

The minister added that such efforts to strengthen the air transport system in Africa would also complement the Single African Air Transport Market and other initiatives of Agenda 2063 of the African Union.

The minister said that ICAO's leadership based on collaboration and coordination with the Member States and stakeholders ought to be commended.

He said that the ICAO's leadership had encouraged Member States to collaborate and pool resources in resolving challenges, particularly in the area of enhancing safety in the Sub-region.

"An outcome is the Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa, which metamorphosized in West Africa region into Banjul Accord Group Aviation Safety Oversight Organization (BAGASOO), in Abuja, hosted and substantially funded by Nigeria.

"This organization has continued to support the Member States in

improving their safety oversight capabilities and human resource development," he said.

Sirika appealed to the Member States, the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and the leadership of ICAO to revive the ICAO Human Resource Development Fund (HRDF) which had remained inactive since 2018.

He added that Nigeria generously contributed to the fund and equally benefitted from the inaugural secondment of officers to ICAO under the programme. Saying that the exposure, experience and knowledge gained by the officers attested to the usefulness of the HRDF programme.

"I wish to reassure you that Nigeria will continue to support ICAO's initiatives and collaborate with the Member States and development partners on the development of air transport in Africa.

"I wish to raise the need to address issues of financing and modernization of aviation infrastructure in line with the historic Declaration and Framework for Plan of Action for Aviation Infrastructure Development in Africa adopted at ICAO World Aviation Forum (IWAF) in Abuja in 2017.

"It is important to recall that under ICAO Assembly Resolution A40-9, Appendix C Section II Article 7, Implementation of this declaration should be done under AFI Plan being hoped as agenda for this event," he said.

He announced that the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Singapore and AFCAC which would later take place to support training programs for aviation in Africa would be of great benefit to the African continent.

The minister expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Singapore for their partnership with AFCAC and commitment to ensuring the development of international civil aviation, particularly in Africa.

He further said that signing of the MoU between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Republic of Rwanda, also the MoU between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Republic of Sierra Leone would strengthen the relationship between the countries.

The Director-General, Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Capt. Musa Nuhu described AFI Aviation Week as the biggest regional conference ICAO had for the African region and the Indian Ocean.

According to him, AFI activities deal with Safety, efficiency, infrastructure development in Airports and Air navigation services.

"This programme over the years has seen tremendous improvement in both the safety and security facilitation in many African countries.

"It is important for the implementation of AU Agenda 2063. One of the key components of the AU Agenda is Single Africa Air Transport Market," he said.



ICAO Secretary General, Juan Carlos Salazar and the Hon Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika, at 7th AFI meeting in Abuja



DG NCAA, Capt. Musa Nuhu, (1st L) moderating a session at the ongoing 7th AFI Aviation Week 2022 hosted by Nigeria. Seated with him are eminent ICAO officials.

RAINY SEASON: NCAA CAUTIONS PILOTS AND AIRLINES OVER HAZARDOUS WEATHER

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) has advised pilots and airline operators to exercise caution over aviation hazardous weather in the rainy season.

This caution was contained in an Advisory Circular (AC) with reference no AC: NCAA-AEROMET – 33 initiated by the directorate of Aerodrome and Airspace Standards (DAAS) addressed to all pilots and airline operators.

The circular is coming on the advent of the Seasonal Climate Prediction (SCP) released for the year 2022 by the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET).

NIMET has predicted Early/late March as the commencement of the rainy season across the Southern states while April/May and June 2022 is the onset of the rainy season in the Central and Northern parts of Nigeria. The rainy season, at outset, is usually characterized by severe thunderstorms and many other hazardous weather phenomena such as severe turbulence, microburst, and low-level wind shear events that could affect the safety of flight operations.

Hence, the need for all stakeholders to perform their roles as stated below in order to ensure the safety of flight operations. With the issuance of this circular, Advisory Circular (AC): NCAA – AEROMET 32 is accordingly cancelled.

Therefore, enumerated below is the responsibility of Air Traffic Controllers in the interest of safety: i. Air Traffic Controllers (ATC) may temporarily close the airspace when hazardous weather conditions such as severe thunderstorm, squall lines, microburst or level wind-shear are forecast by NIMET.

The NCAA enumerated a series of responsibilities for pilots and flight crew/operators: “Flight Crews/Operators and ATCs shall ensure strict adherence to aerodrome operating minima.

“Pilots shall exercise maximum restraint whenever adverse weather is observed or forecast by NIMET. “Pilots /Flight Crew Members shall obtain adequate departure, en-route and destination weather information and briefing from NIMET Aerodrome Meteorological Stations prior to flight operations.”

Given the above, the NCAA stated



that operators are required to play a key role in ensuring adequate measures are put in place to lessen the effects of the attendant flight delays and cancellations on their passengers occasioned by hazardous severe weather during the rainy season in accordance with Nig. CARs, Part 19.

While the regulatory authority urges all passengers to exercise patience and understanding during this period as their safety is of utmost importance, stakeholders are advised to ensure strict compliance with safety regulations as violations would be viewed seriously.

...NIGERIA SIGNS MOU WITH SIERRA LEONE, AND RWANDA FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT

contd. from pg 1

Speaking on the MoUs, the Minister of Aviation Senator Hadi Sirika says, it is to strengthen the safety and efficiency of the sector as well as cooperation in the region.

He said cooperation whether regional or international speaks volumes of how safe the industry is and how well passengers are facilitated and how efficient the sector is.

The minister stated that aviation being an enabler and a positive factor for growth, development and robustness of the economy, informed the sector to enter into partnerships with other countries.

“This is the only way to continue to make these initiatives relevant and sustainable while contributing to the strengthening of safety, security and facilitation in the region, bearing in



■ DG NCAA, Capt Musa Nuhu and Sierra Leone CAA DG, Dr Moses Tiffa Baio displayed the copies of MOU shortly after the opening of the 7th AFI meeting

mind that a safe, secure and efficient air transport system is a natural impetus for socio-economic development of the region and a means to support trade and tourism”. The NCAA Director General, Captain Nuhu further explained that the partnership with the two African countries is to assist each other where there are gaps or deficiencies

in the system, adding that no civil aviation authorities globally have the capacity to do everything. The experience of the last two years has underscored the fact that overcoming challenges and achieving meaningful growth in the industry, can only be done through cooperation, collaboration and coordination amongst stakeholders.

PRESIDENT BUHARI ASSURES ICAO THAT NIGERIA WILL SUSTAIN INVESTMENTS IN AVIATION SAFETY AND SECURITY

President Muhammadu Buhari has disclosed that Nigeria will deploy more investments aimed at the provision of infrastructure and facilities for safe, secure, environmentally friendly and sustainable civil aviation.

The president, who spoke while receiving in audience the Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Mr Juan Carlos Salazar, at the State House, Abuja, said Nigeria will support the ideals and aspirations of ICAO and achievement of its strategic objectives, in collaboration with other member states of the organization.

"Nigeria became a member of ICAO Council in 1962 and since then, it has continued to make valuable contributions to the Council's work and its activities.

"It is pertinent to also mention that Nigeria has been playing a key role in supporting the implementation of ICAO policies and programmes internationally, and particularly in the African region.

"To this end, Nigeria has ratified international air law instruments like the Montreal Protocol and amendments to some articles of the Chicago Convention. Nigeria is also championing the cause of Aviation safety, security and facilitation in Africa."

The president told the ICAO delegation that he has approved the establishment of Aerospace University in Abuja to cater for research and development, as well as provide manpower for the industry. "In this regard, Nigeria is looking forward to the continued support of ICAO under its 'No Country Left Behind initiative,'" he added.

President Buhari also noted that the Nigerian Government has established independent agencies in order to enhance aviation safety and security while ensuring effective and efficient provision and management of infrastructure in all aspects of the industry.

"These include the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority for safety and economic oversight of the industry;



■ Hon. Minister of Aviation, Sen. Hadi Sirika led ICAO Secretary General, Juan Carlos Salazar, DG, NCAA, Capt Musa Shuiab Nuhu, Nigerian Rep in ICAO Council Engr. Ben Tukur and other top Brass from the 7th AFI Abuja Meeting on a courtesy visit to President Mohammed Buhari in the Villa.

the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency for air traffic services; the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria for management of government-owned airports; the Nigerian Meteorological Agency for meteorological services; and the Nigerian College of Aviation Technology, the nation's main aviation training organization, established in 1964 in collaboration with ICAO and the United Nations Development Programme.

"Nigeria is fully committed to working with other states and supporting the implementation of the Global Aviation Safety Plan, the Global Air Navigation Plan, as well as the Global Aviation Security Plan," the president said.

As part of its support, President Buhari said Nigeria, over time, seconded auditors to support various ICAO programmes in the areas of safety and security.

"We have also contributed experts on various ICAO technical panels, commissions and working groups.

"The Government of Nigeria has adopted a civil aviation policy, which is centred on liberalization and Public-Private-Partnerships Initiative. These have resulted in huge investments in the nation's airports infrastructure and services, increased capacity utilization and a phenomenal increase in the number of domestic operators. Indeed, the

domestic and international traffic has experienced tremendous growth since we assumed office in 2015.

"Nigeria is the headquarters of the Regional Safety Oversight Organisation, the Banjul Accord Group Aviation Safety Oversight Organization and also, a major contributor and participant in the Regional Accident Investigation Agency, the Banjul Accord Group Accident Investigation Agency," he added.

The president said, Nigeria recently made a robust donation to the ICAO voluntary Air Transport Fund in order to be part of the global efforts for recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

"We have also made significant financial contribution to the Safety and Human Resource Development Funds, in addition to hosting several ICAO meetings and regional workshops, including the widely acclaimed successful third ICAO World Aviation Forum, as well as several other workshops on safety oversight," he said.

Also speaking at the event, the Minister of Aviation, Sirika, commended President Buhari for the giant strides taken under his administration in the areas of aviation safety, security and development.

"Our profile improved significantly during your tenure, Mr President. Passengers rose from eight million to

contd. in pg 9

NAMA DESIGNS FLIGHT MAPS FOR PILOTS AND AIRCRAFT LOCALLY

The Acting Managing Director of the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) Mr Mathew Lawrence Pwajok has said the agency is working hard to develop and publish Visual Flight Rule (VFR) charts locally- an aeronautical chart is a map designed to assist in the navigation of aircraft, much as nautical charts do for watercraft or a roadmap for drivers.

Using these charts and other tools, pilots are able to determine their position, safe altitude, the best route to a destination, navigation aids along the way, alternative landing areas in case of an in-flight emergency, and other useful information such as radio frequencies and airspace boundaries.

There are charts for all landmasses on earth, and long-distance charts for

trans-oceanic travel. Specific charts are used for each phase of a flight and may vary from a map of a particular airport facility to an overview of the instrument routes covering an entire continent (e.g. global navigation charts), and many types in between.

Visual flight charts are categorized according to their scale which is proportional to the size of the area covered by one map. The amount of detail is necessarily reduced when larger areas are represented on a map.

Pwajok, who spoke at the 2022 World AIS Day in Abuja, said the agency had been collaborating with the Office of the Surveyor-General of the Federation (OSGOF) for the past two years to obtain required and suitable data that will form the foundation or bedrock of the chart.

He expressed his joy for the feat,



adding that NAMA experts have been able to produce some basic VFR charts prototype covering a very limited geographical area of Lagos which was being used as a benchmark to guide further expansion into the entire country in phases.

FAAN INAUGURATES APP FOR AIRPORT TAXI

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) has inaugurated Taxi App loading booth at Nnamdi

Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja.

The Group Capt. Usman Sadiq, Director, Security Service FAAN represented the MD, said in his opening remarks that (NAIA) was chosen as a pilot scheme among airports in the country, adding that Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Lagos would be the next.

He said, "It is in furtherance of conformity with international standard and will equally add to Gross Domestic Products of Nigeria." Adding that the project will also improve safety, security and comfort and further ensure development in the Aviation sector.

"This is a good development. We fair changes naturally. Sometimes, when change occurs, we will be proud of it. I am assuring taxi and commercial drivers that this will actually lead to laudable development.

"This laudable project is a result of careful planning, negotiation and some meetings of relevant



stakeholders. I hope everybody will key into this project and work towards its success," he said.

In his address of welcome, Mr Kabir Mohammed, FAAN Regional General Manager, North Central, said that the commissioning of the App was a resolute action to move from analogue to digital at all airports in the nation. Mohammed commended all stakeholders that had contributed in one way or another to the success of the project.

"Today, history has been made by moving from analogue to digital. This

is just the beginning. We need your cooperation. We want to assure that Abuja airport is working very hard. "This is actually a new narrative brought in by the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria". he spoke.

Contributing, the Director, Commercial FAAN, Mr Sadiku Rafindadi, said the authority had started automation and would continue with it, adding that MMIA would be the next to observe the commissioning of the App then to be followed by Port Harcourt Airport and then throughout the country.



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF AVIATION

The Ministry under the leadership of Hon. Minister of Aviation Sen. Hadi Sirika is committed to delivering the key components of the Aviation sector Roadmap which is aimed at creating enabling environment for the industry to thrive. The roadmap comprises the following:

- i. Concession of four Airports
- ii. Establishment of a National Carrier (Nigeria Air)
- iii. Development of Agro-Allied /Cargo Terminals
- iv. Establishment of Maintenance, Repairs and Overhaul (MRO) Centre
- v. Establishment of an Aviation Leasing Company (ALC)
- vi. Development of Aerotropolis (Airport Cities)
- vii. Establishment of an Aerospace University.
- viii. Improvement in Aviation Safety and Security through upgrades and Modernization of Aviation Infrastructure and facilities.

Ministry of Aviation, Federal Secretariat Phase I, Shehu Shagari Way, Central Business District, FCT - Abuja

 @FMAVIATIONNG  FMAVIATIONNG  FMAVIATIONNG  info@aviation.gov.ng  www.aviation.gov.ng

FG TO ASSIST MORE AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO ADVANCE IN METEOROLOGY

The Nigerian government says it is offering technical assistance to other African countries to advance their capacities in weather forecasting.

Mansur Matazu, the Director-General, Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), disclosed this at the opening of a two-day regional forum hosted by Nigeria.

The bodies involved in the forum are Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application Programmes (CLIMSA) Committee and the Governing Board of the African Centre of the Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD).

According to Matazu, such assistance to other African countries is crucial to boost their standard of living and to collectively qualify to access the huge Global Climate Change Fund.

He listed countries NiMet has been helping on early warning programmes to include Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Mozambique and Malawi. These countries enjoy NiMet's weather forecast activities.

He said "The \$100 billion COP financing mechanism will mitigate climate change disaster. It is a pledge by developed nations to developing nations which is not easy to access. COP is the supreme decision-making body of the Convention.

"Originally for Africa, the access to



Prof. Mansur Matazu, Director-General, Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet)

these vital funds is very low. That is why NiMet is also assisting other African countries in order to raise their capacity to be able to come up with products, projects and programmes to access the funds," he said.

DG Nimet explained that climate changes are a result of global warming, triggered by industrialisation and high emission of greenhouse gases, and released into the atmosphere. They alter normal climate variation and climate data in the world.

"Unfortunately for Africa, because of low adaptability and low mitigation measures, we have been affected and much more vulnerable to it. That

is while advanced countries pledged and provided some incentives for climate change adaptation.

"For African countries, we are working hard in order to access such funds through climate adaptation programme and climate mitigation projects," he added.

The Director, World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) regional office for Africa Amos Makarau, said the objective of the meeting was to take stock of the system that the European Union (EU) had given to Africa through ACMAD.

He expressed optimism that the outcome of the meeting would add value to the entire Africa in terms of the weather forecast.

AON ACCEDES TO A CALL FROM THE GOVERNMENT, SUSPENDS ACTION IN GOOD FATE

The Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON) wishes to inform the general public that further to numerous calls from the highest echelons in government with promises to urgently intervene in the crisis being faced by airlines due to the astronomic and continuously rising cost of JetA1, the AON has acceded to requests to withdraw the action for the time being while we allow for a fresh round of dialogue with the government in the hope of reaching an amicable solution. In a statement signed by the AON President,

Abdulmunaf Yunusa Sarina.

He said; We have also reached this decision with the highest consideration for our esteemed customers who have been faced with uncertainty over the last few days and to enable them to have access to travel to their various destinations for the time being during the period of discussions with relevant authorities. Because of the above and the interest of the national economy and security considerations, AON hereby wishes to notify the general public that the earlier announced shutdown of operations on May 9, 2022, is



hereby suspended in good faith pending the outcome of hopefully fruitful engagement with the government, he added.

AON's THREAT TO SHUT DOWN OPERATIONS

...the AON withdrawal of service was not against the government.

The attention of the Honourable Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika has been drawn to reports that the nation's air transportation system will be disrupted from Monday, May 9th, 2022, following threats by airline operators to shut down operations as a result of the rising cost of Jet A1, otherwise known as aviation fuel.

As the Ministry charged with the management of the industry, we are greatly concerned about the difficulties being faced by the airline operators in the country in procuring aviation fuel which has resulted in spiralling costs in Air transportation in the immediate past.

We also acknowledge that the airline operators are in the business to make profits while servicing the very critical sector that is not only the preferred mode of transport for most Nigerians but also the main international gateway to the nation.

Unfortunately, the issue of fuel supply is not within the purview of the Ministry and so the much it can do in the present situation is to engage with agencies, institutions and individuals in positions to provide succour to the airlines. This is already being done by the relevant team led by the Honourable Minister.

While the efforts to assuage the situation are on, we wish to appeal to the airline operators, even in the difficult situation, to consider the multiplier effect of shutting down operations, on Nigerians and global travellers, in taking their business-informed decisions and actions.

We also assure Nigerians, especially stakeholders in the sector, that the Buhari administration remains stoic in its commitment to the creation and sustenance of an environment that promotes the growth of the aviation industry where major players like the airlines can operate in a profitable and competitive market.

In another development, since members of the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON) issued a notice of withdrawal of flight services as a result of the rising cost of Jet A1 (Aviation fuel), and despite the initial statement by the Ministry, enquiries



■ Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika

have continued to flood in with some under the erroneous impression that the withdrawal was a kind of strike against the government.

We wish to state that the decision of the Association is purely a business one as they are private businesses reacting to market forces but appealing for interventions to enable them to carry on with their operations. The Ministry has always made conscious efforts to assist members of the Airline Operators of Nigeria (AON), some of which includes facilitating a meeting between the Association and Mr President, during which the Association got several concessions, including duty-free importation of aircraft, engines, spare parts and components.

The Honourable Minister at various times personally took members of the Association to engage with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to sort out issues of access to Foreign Exchange (FOREX) for their operations, and also the NNPC to exploit ways of ensuring the availability of Aviation fuel (JET A1) through importation or from the major Marketers.

It should also be recalled that members of the Association were also considered for, and given Bail-out funds to the tune of N4 billion

during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that they remained afloat. This was without prejudice to the fact that most of them were heavily indebted to Aviation agencies (as they still are).

We believe that members of the Association are patriots who have continued to bear the brunt of an unfavourable oil market for which we salute their doggedness.

It is gratifying that members of the Association have started reviewing the decision to withdraw flight services, with Ibom Air, Green Africa Airlines, Arik Air, Dana and others confirming that they will carry on with their normal flight schedules. We hope that other members will consider the expected impact on businesses and individuals and review their decision.

We also wish to assure foreign airlines operating in the country that all logistics and services for their operations remain in place as usual and that no disruptions whatsoever should be envisaged.

As a government, we reiterate our commitment to the continued growth of the aviation industry where airlines and other service providers operate in a profitable and competitive environment.

HOW TO AID SEAMLESS CARGO FACILITATION AT AIRPORTS' ECONOMIC - MD FAAN

The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) said it was doing everything possible to put in place infrastructure that will aid seamless facilitation of cargo operations at various airports across the country.

The agency stated that it had also recognised the huge significance of the air cargo sector to its operations; the reason the Federal Government, as part of the nation's aviation roadmap, designated some airports as cargo airports to aid the seamless facilitation of cargo within and outside the country.

The Managing Director of FAAN, Capt. Rabiú Yadudu, disclosed this in his keynote address at a one-day cargo conference with the theme: "Functional Cargo Sector Management, Better Economy," held in Lagos.

Yadudu further stated that for an efficient and sustainable airport cargo strategy, "we must understand where we are by carrying out cargo market and economic analysis, understanding cargo community perspective as well as efficient capacity and competitive position analysis.

We must also define a cargo vision and development plan, as well as cargo policy development. Also, we must develop cargo infrastructure, cargo operations, and processes, as well as embrace technological innovations."

The FAAN MD further noted that in



■ Managing Director FAAN, Capt. Rabiú Yadudu

terms of infrastructure, the cargo terminals in Lagos, Abuja, Port-Harcourt, Kano, Owerri, Enugu, Akure, Calabar, Ilorin, Jos, Makurdi, Minna, and Uyo had all been reconfigured to facilitate perishable and non-perishable cargo, with necessary infrastructure like digital cargo sheds, security scanners, and safety equipment among others.

He, however, said that the success of a cargo hub relied on a large number of stakeholders cooperating and synergising including shippers, freight forwarders, ground handlers, truckers, Customs, airlines, integrators, regulators and airports.

"Additionally, air cargo generates

significant economic value to the airports, enabling local trade, generating employment, and attracting new high-value industries. It is important to emphasise that air cargo's contribution to employment and economic output is substantial. Air transport carries around 35 per cent of world trade by value and less than one per cent by volume," he noted.

The broader socio-economic multiplier effect from air cargo, he added, can be difficult to accurately measure due to a general lack of cargo data and the complexity of isolating air cargo from the broader logistics sector.

...PRESIDENT BUHARI ASSURES ICAO THAT NIGERIA WILL SUSTAIN INVESTMENTS IN AVIATION SAFETY AND SECURITY

contd. from pg 4

18 million in four years, while security and safety also went up significantly," he said.

Earlier in his speech, the ICAO scribe lauded what he called "the leadership role Nigeria plays in civil aviation in Africa", saying the country's record is one of the most impressive in the world.

"The numbers of airports have

doubled, and passengers are growing despite COVID-19. The record of safety is the most important performance indicator of all. I recognize the excellent work by your government to maintain high standards, in line with international best practices," Salazar said.

Stressing that it's important to maintain the track record, the ICAO

Secretary General stressed that there was no end line in civil aviation, "we keep chasing targets that go on and on".

He urged President Buhari to sustain the support being given to the sector, to attract further investment, tourism and continued growth.


MINISTRY OF AVIATION



Aviationnews

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Public Affairs Division,
Ministry of Aviation,
Federal Secretariat Phase I,
Shehu Shagari Way,
Central Business District,
FCT - Abuja

 @FMAVIATIONNG
 FMAVIATIONNG
 FMAVIATIONNG
 info@aviation.gov.ng
 www.aviation.gov.ng