



**LIBERIA CIVIL AVIATION  
AUTHORITY(LCAA)**

# **Newsletter 2025**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We extend our sincere appreciation to the following individuals for their valuable contributions:

Stephen R. Johnson, Deputy Director General of Administration, for his outstanding administrative support, guidance, stories and proofreading

Chester Clarke, Administrative Assistant, for his stories and photos

Sheldrick S. Dunoh and Harris T. Nathan, Photographers, for capturing exceptional images that enrich our project.

Dominic M. Wollor, Jr., Layout Designer, for his creative and professional design expertise.

Claudius Greene, Special Contributor

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Director General, LCAA



**Mr. Stephen R. Johnson**  
Deputy Director General-Administration



**Atty. F. Augustine Claudius Tamba**  
Deputy Director General -Technical



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## THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

As Director General of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), I am honored to share the remarkable progress we have made and to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to transforming Liberia's aviation sector into a model of safety, efficiency, and professionalism.

One of our primary goals is to effectively improve the (EI) score from 27% to 75%. This achievement will directly address the major security and safety concerns identified in the 2021 ICAO audit and demonstrate our

dedication to aligning Liberia's aviation standards with international best practices, and by reaching this milestone, we will not only elevate our global standing but also enhance passenger confidence and operational safety.

Since assuming office, my administration has also enforced a rigorous compliance regime for travel agencies, including the issuance and re-issuance of travel licenses. This initiative has strengthened regulatory oversight, promoted transparency, and ensured that all agencies operate with the highest standards of professionalism and service delivery.

We have further expanded Liberia's international aviation partnerships by

successfully negotiating and signing several Bilateral Air Service Agreements (BASA). These agreements are crucial for increasing air connectivity, attracting investment, and supporting our nation's broader economic development goals.

My vision is to position Liberia as a compliant, trustworthy, and competitive aviation hub in the region. Our mission is to ensure the highest standards of safety, security, and service delivery while fostering a culture of professionalism and operational excellence.

To achieve this, we are prioritizing human capital development. I have demonstrated a strong and unwavering commitment to training, with a specific focus on preparing the next generation of aviation professionals through comprehensive training programs and mentorship opportunities; this ensures a sustainable pipeline of skilled personnel ready to advance Liberia's aviation sector.

Additionally, we have instilled a culture of proper work ethics and punctuality across the Authority, encouraging and supporting staff to uphold disciplined work habits, and this has enhanced organizational discipline, staff morale, and overall service quality.

**Goal: ICAO Coordinated Validation Mission (ICVM) by mid-2026**

Looking ahead, our goal is to host an ICAO Coordinated Validation Mission (ICVM) by mid-2026. This mission will

validate the progress we have made in addressing audit findings and further establish Liberia as a leader in aviation safety and compliance.

**Call to National Government:  
Support for Roberts International Airport**

To sustain and build upon these achievements, I call on the government of the Republic of Liberia to provide increased support and resources for the continued improvement of the Roberts

International Airport. Enhanced investment is essential to modernize our infrastructure, strengthen security, and ensure that our facilities meet the highest international standards.

Together, we can create a world-class aviation environment that drives economic growth and connects Liberia to new opportunities. Each of these achievements and goals reflects my strategic vision and dedication to elevating Liberia's civil aviation sector to new heights, ensuring safety, compliance, and growth for years to come.

Thank you, and stay blessed.

# COMMENTARY

The Key Differences Between the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority and the Liberia Airport Authority; understanding the Distinct Roles of each entity: Clearing the Confusion in Liberia's Aviation Sector.

By Job Patrick Okai  
Senior Public Relations Officer  
Liberia Civil Aviation Authority

It is not uncommon to hear the public interchangeably use "Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA)" and "Liberia Airport Authority (LAA)".

Many Liberians are not aware of the inner workings of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority and the Liberia Airport Authority, respectively. In fact, whenever either name is mentioned in public, people usually conclude that they are the same entity.

This confusion is understandable, given that both institutions are pillars of the nation's aviation sector and often collaborate closely. However, inasmuch as both entities work collaboratively, their mandates, responsibilities, and day-to-day operations are fundamentally different, so much so that comparing them is like comparing a cloud to a rock. The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority and the Liberia Airport Authority have their distinct roles and responsibilities within Liberia's aviation sector.

For the benefit of our readers and the traveling public, this commentary aims to clarify the unique roles each authority plays in keeping Liberia's skies safe and its airports running smoothly.

## The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA): The Regulator and The Watchdog

The LCAA stands as the regulatory backbone of Liberia's aviation industry. Established by law, its primary mandate is to regulate and promote civil aviation throughout the country. This means the LCAA is responsible for:

- Setting and enforcing safety and security standards for all aviation activities, in line with international best practices and the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- Licensing and oversight of airlines, aircraft, pilots, air traffic controllers, drone operators, aviation schools, and even travel agencies.
- Ensuring compliance with global aviation regulations, conducting audits, and investigating incidents or accidents to improve safety.
- Developing national aviation policies and strategic plans to foster the orderly growth of the sector and support Liberia's economic development.

In essence, the LCAA acts as the referee, ensuring that everyone in the aviation ecosystem, whether they are flying, maintaining, or managing aircraft, adheres to strict safety and operational standards. Its work is largely regulatory, policy-driven, and focused on the big picture of aviation safety, security, and development.

### The Liberia Airport Authority (LAA): The Operator and Service Provider

On the other hand, the Liberia Airport Authority is the entity tasked with the practical, day-to-day management of the country's airports; its responsibilities include:

Operating and maintaining airport infrastructure, such as runways, terminals, and support facilities.

Managing ground services: from baggage handling and passenger facilitation to security screening and firefighting services.

Upgrading and expanding airport facilities to meet growing demand and international standards.

Ensuring efficient and customer-friendly airport operations for both domestic and international travelers.

The LAA is, in effect, the landlord and service provider for Liberia's airports. While the LCAA sets the rules, the LAA ensures that the physical spaces where

aviation happens like Roberts International Airport, James Spriggs Payne Airport including airstrips across Liberia are safe, functional, and welcoming.

### Why the Distinction Matters

Understanding the difference between these two authorities is not just a matter of semantics; it is crucial for effective governance, accountability, and public awareness. When a new airline seeks to operate in Liberia, it must first obtain regulatory approval from the LCAA, but when it comes to landing rights, terminal space, or ground handling, it deals with the LAA. Similarly, if there is a safety incident, the LCAA investigates, through the Air Accident Investigation Bureau - AAIB, and enforces corrective actions, while the LAA implements operational changes at the airport level.

This clear division of labor ensures that Liberia's aviation sector is both well regulated and efficiently managed. The LCAA's focus on oversight and compliance complements the LAA's operational expertise, creating a system where safety, security, and service quality reinforce each other.

### Working Together for Liberia's Future

Despite their different mandates, the LCAA and LAA must work hand-in-hand to achieve shared goals, including safe skies, modern airports, and a thriving aviation industry that supports national

development. Joint initiatives such as efforts to address international audit findings and upgrade airport infrastructure demonstrate the power of collaboration between these two institutions.

As Liberia continues to invest in its aviation sector, public understanding of these roles will be vital. By recognizing the unique contributions of both the LCAA and LAA, we can better appreciate the complexity and importance of the work being done to connect Liberia to the world safely, securely, and efficiently.

## LCAA'S SPECIAL INDEPENDENCE DAY'S MESSAGE

With profound respect and patriotic pride, on the auspicious occasion of Liberia's 178th Independence celebrations, the Chairman and Board Members, as well as the the Management, and Staff of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) wish His Excellency President Joseph Nyumah Boakai, the Honorable Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung, the Esteemed Government and People of the Republic of

Liberia their warmest and most heartfelt greetings

As we commemorate this historic milestone, we reflect with deep gratitude on the sacrifices and triumphs that have shaped our nation's journey. This day serves as a powerful reminder of our collective strength, unwavering hope, and the enduring spirit of unity that binds us as Liberians.

We wish the Government and the people of Liberia genuine love, solid peace, and unbreakable unity. May these virtues continue to flourish in our hearts and communities, guiding us toward a future of shared prosperity and harmony.

On this Independence Day, let us also recognize the vital role of aviation in Liberia's economic growth. A strong and modern aviation sector connects our nation to the world, fosters trade and tourism, creates jobs, and opens doors to new opportunities. The LCAA remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring safe, secure, and efficient skies for all, thereby supporting Liberia's progress and development.

May this celebration inspire us to soar higher, united in purpose and hope, as we build a brighter future for generations to come.

Happy 178th Independence Day, Liberia. This message is from the Chairman and Board Members, as well as the Management and Staff of the Liberia

Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA).

## **LCAA'S UPDATES**

### *ICAO and Partners Drive Urgent Aviation Reforms*



Officials of the LCAA and the RIA, as well the guests from ICAO WACAF and BAGASOO meeting with Speaker Richard Koon (middle) at the Capitol Building

In a powerful show of commitment to aviation safety, the Government of Liberia, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the Banjul Accord Group Aviation Safety Oversight Organization (BAGASOO) have joined forces to overhaul Liberia's aviation safety system. This groundbreaking collaboration was announced following high-level talks held Wednesday at the Executive

Mansion and Capitol Building, where top officials, lawmakers, and international aviation experts mapped out a bold action plan.

The urgent push comes on the heels of ICAO's 2022 safety audit, which revealed critical safety gaps and placed Liberia's aviation oversight score at 27%, far from the global benchmark of 75%. Two Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) remain unresolved, putting aircraft and passengers at risk every time they land at Roberts International Airport (RIA).

Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) Director General Hon. Julius M. Dennis made it clear: the time for action is now. “We’re charting a roadmap for corrective measures, but success depends on strong support from all stakeholders and international partners,” he said. “Together with ICAO and BAGASOO, we’re closing gaps and setting a course to eliminate these safety concerns once and for all.”

ICAO Deputy Regional Director for Western and Central Africa, Mr. Manzi Nika Mehieza, commended Liberia’s resolve but stressed the challenges ahead. “With two major safety concerns still outstanding, this situation is critical. Strengthening the civil aviation authority with qualified personnel is key to turning the tide,” he urged, setting an ambitious three-month deadline for resolving the SSCs.

The commitment is echoed by House Speaker Hon. Richard N. Koon, who vowed robust legislative backing. “Aviation in Liberia has long been underfunded and underprioritized, but that changes right now. “We’re ready to allocate the necessary budget for new equipment and enhanced safety measures,” he declared, promising close cooperation with the Ministry of Finance to clear debts and ratify vital international protocols.

Minister of State without Portfolio Hon. Mamaka Bility, speaking for President Joseph N. Boakai, emphasized that aviation safety is a presidential priority. “The President’s leadership is hands-on. Our goal: not just a world-class airport, but one that is absolutely safe,” she said, outlining

plans for a detailed reform roadmap, settled arrears with ICAO, and increased training and institutional capacity for LCAA.

National Security Advisor Samuel Kofi Woods highlighted the broader significance of the reforms: “Aviation safety is now a national security imperative. The appointment of an energetic and competent Director General signals Liberia’s determination to protect our skies and secure our economic future.”

With consensus from all quarters, Liberia is set to aggressively tackle its aviation safety shortcomings, modernize air navigation systems, invest in skilled personnel, and empower the LCAA as a robust regulatory force.

As ICAO and BAGASOO pledge ongoing technical support, Liberia’s aviation community looks forward to dramatic improvements ahead. One aviation expert aptly summarized the mission: “Fixing safety isn’t just about rules; it’s about building trust, saving lives, and ensuring every flight to and from Liberia’s skies lands safely.”

# *A New Chapter for Liberian Aviation: Reforming for Safety and Growth*

In a bold move to elevate its aviation sector, Liberia is embarking on a comprehensive reform initiative to address significant safety concerns identified in a recent audit. Following a high-level meeting at the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) headquarters, the nation is committed to rebuilding its aviation system to meet and exceed global safety standards.

## Uniting to Address Critical Safety Gaps

The crucial gathering brought together top experts from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) West and Central Africa Regional Office (WACAF) and the Banjul Accord Group Aviation Safety Oversight Organization (BAGASOO), alongside LCAA leadership. The focus was to tackle the Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) flagged during a 2022 ICAO audit, which exposed critical gaps in Liberia's aviation oversight.

LCAA Director General Julius M. Dennis acknowledged the audit's findings, stating, "We failed miserably, but we are now fully committed to turning things around to build a compliant aviation industry that matches international norms and standards." He emphasized that while internal reforms



*From left to right Dr. Victor-Elias Oche of BAGASOO, Manzi Nika Meheza, representing ICAO WACAF, Mr. Juius Dennis, Director General LCAA, Transport Minister Sirleaf Tyler, Madam Sandrine Gnassou Regional Officer, Communication, Navigation and Surveillance and Mr. Alexandre Damiba, Director of African Flight Procedure Programme*

are underway, collaboration with international partners is essential to building a credible oversight framework.

## Ambitious Goals and Economic Promise

The LCAA is targeting a minimum 75% compliance score, a benchmark that will align Liberia's aviation sector with global best practices. Director Dennis recognized that this goal is a significant challenge, requiring substantial financial and technical resources for everything from upgrading airport navigation aids to overhauling safety oversight systems. However, he stressed that it is an achievable target with dedicated focus, adequate funding, and strong national resolve.

Beyond enhancing safety, this reform effort is a cornerstone of the nation's economic future. A safe, compliant aviation system is vital for enabling the smooth flow of people, goods, and services, thereby driving



*The visiting team along with officials of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority - LCAA and Roberts Flight Information Region - RFIR*



*The LCAA Deputy Director General for Administration Stephen Johnson far left, and technical team of the LCAA along with the representatives of ICAO WACAF and BAGASOO, visiting the management of the Roberts International Airport*

business, trade, and investment.

#### A Call for Unity and Action

Manzi Nika Mehieza, representing ICAO WACAF, praised Liberia's renewed commitment to reform and called for a transparent, unified effort. He highlighted that the ultimate goal is not just to clear the SSCs, but to cultivate an environment that welcomes international airlines and operators. "The 75% compliance target is

challenging, but achievable with urgency and determination," he added.

Director General Dennis concluded the meeting with a powerful call for solidarity, stating, "We have the qualifications, capacity, and expertise; now is the time to commit fully. With unity and determination, Liberia's aviation sector will become a remarkable success story."

With the ongoing support of ICAO,

BAGASOO, and WACAF, Liberia is on a clear path to strengthening its oversight, regaining global confidence, and ensuring safer skies for all.

## *Brussels Airlines Sponsors International Air Traffic Control Training*



*Beneficiaries Standing Along With Officials of The LCAA And Benefactors*

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) and Brussels Airlines have formalized a landmark partnership to enhance air traffic control training, a critical step toward strengthening Liberia's aviation safety and operational standards.

On January 8, 2025, LCAA Director-General Julius D. Dennis, Jr., and Brussels Airlines Country Manager Marjolein J. Six signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will enable specialized training for six

Approach Controllers and three Aerodrome Controllers. The training is set to take place in Accra, Ghana, with a duration of one month for Approach Controllers and three months for Aerodrome Controllers.

This collaboration directly addresses training gaps identified in the 2022 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) audit, aligning with the strategic focus of the LCAA on human resource development and capacity building within

Liberia's aviation sector.

Director General Dennis described the partnership as a "significant milestone" in the Authority's ongoing efforts to improve aviation safety and efficiency. He emphasized that investing in the professional development of air traffic control personnel will not only raise safety standards, but also strengthen Liberia's overall aviation capabilities.

Ms. Six expressed Brussels Airlines' commitment to supporting sustainable aviation growth in Liberia, highlighting the importance of this partnership in fostering a safer and more efficient air transport system.

Following months of productive

negotiations, this agreement underscores the shared dedication of LCAA and Brussels Airlines to advancing aviation safety and service delivery in Liberia.

Brussels Airlines, the flag carrier of Belgium and a member of the Lufthansa Group, operates an extensive network across Europe and Africa and is recognized for its strong commitment to safety and operational excellence. The LCAA remains the regulatory body overseeing all civil aviation activities in Liberia, ensuring the safety and efficiency of air travel within Liberian airspace.

This partnership marks a pivotal step in building a skilled and capable air traffic control workforce, contributing to safer skies and enhanced service delivery for Liberia's growing aviation sector.

## *Liberia Attends AFCAC Plenary Session*



*Members of the Liberian Delegation at the 35 AFCAC plenary in Congo, Brazzaville: Left to Right Mr. Chester Clark of the LCAA, DG Dennis of the LCAA, Mr. Daniel T. Johnson and Mr. Matho of RFIR respectively.*

The Director General of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) Mr. Julius D. Dennis. Jr., returned to Liberia, along with a delegation from the 35th Ordinary Plenary Session of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), held in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo.

The other members of the Liberian delegation included the Deputy Secretary General for Administrative Affairs at the Roberts Flight Information Region - RFIR, Mr. Daniel Johnson, and Mr. Chester Clarke, Administrative Assistant to Mr. Dennis.

The conference, which is held triennially on a rotational basis, dedicated the first two days to the plenary agenda, while the third day prioritized the celebrations of the Yamoussoukro Decision anniversary and the High-Level Ministerial Meeting.

At the meeting, the African Civil Aviation Commission - AFCAC agreed to collaborate with Liberia in its efforts to address and mitigate the discrepancies and anomalies identified and flagged in the recent International Civil Aviation Organization Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme - Continuous Monitoring Approach audit results. AFCAC considers Liberia's situation a priority and is calling on all stakeholders to join

hands and collaborate with the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority to achieve its goals and targets as a matter of urgency.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the LCAA's boss held several bilateral discussions with various delegations, seeking cooperation in the areas of training and technical assistance for the aviation sector of Liberia.

The Director General's request for training assistance, in a discussion with Mr. Bernard Lim, the Special Envoy of the Minister for Transport and Senior Director of International Relations and Security at the Singaporean Ministry of Transport was accepted, and the necessary modalities will be worked out between both parties.

Mr. Dennis also held discussions with Eng. Saeed Mohammad Al Suwaidi, the United Arab Emirates - UAE representative at the International Civil Aviation Organization - ICAO, and it was agreed that Liberia and the UAE will continue to pursue avenues of cooperation for the ultimate conclusion of a Bilateral Air Service Agreement (BASA) between Liberia and the United Arab Emirates.

Similarly, fruitful discussions were held with Mr. Tarik Talibi, the Acting Director-General of the Morocco Civil Aviation Authority, Captain Amir Elsharkawy, the Chairman of the Egypt Civil Aviation Authority, Mr. Kwak,

Young-pil, the Senior Director of air traffic management at the Korea Civil Aviation Authority, and Mr. Onuma Toshiyuki, the Senior Deputy Director-General of the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau; during those discussions, it was unanimously agreed that follow-up actions will continue.

AFCAC is the African Union's specialized agency for all civil aviation matters on the African continent and the Executing Agency of the Yamassoukro Decision (YD) as well as the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM).



Mr. Aytekin Serbest of Turkish Airlines and Director General Julius Dennis of LCAA

The Director-General of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), Mr. Julius D. Dennis Jr., recently welcomed a delegation from Turkish Airlines to Liberia, marking a significant step toward expanding international air services. Mr. Dennis expressed enthusiasm about Turkish Airlines' interest in launching scheduled flights to Liberia, highlighting the airline's extensive global network and emphasizing the Liberian government's commitment to attracting more carriers to boost the national economy.

Mr. Dennis underscored tourism as a key pillar of President Boakai's ARREST agenda, noting that increased flight connectivity would greatly enhance this sector. He also pointed to the presence of MNG Gold, a major Turkish investment in Liberia, as a potential catalyst encouraging Turkish Airlines to establish direct routes to the country.

Representing Turkish Airlines, Mr. Aytekin Serbest, General Manager for Accra, shared that the airline currently serves 131 countries with 268 international destinations and operates 12 weekly flights to Accra. He confirmed that

## *LCAA Holds Exploratory Talks with Turkish Airlines to Expand Air Connectivity*

The Director-General of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), Mr. Julius D. Dennis Jr., recently welcomed a

Turkish Airlines is actively exploring the possibility of extending its services to Liberia and expressed optimism about realizing this goal, once all arrangements are finalized. Also present at the meeting was Mr. Serhan Uuushan, CEO of Bea Mountain, who revealed his personal involvement in negotiations to bring Turkish Airlines to Liberia. He emphasized the benefits the airline's presence would bring, particularly in reducing staff turnover challenges for his

company.

Both parties agreed that once a formal application is submitted to the LCAA, the official licensing process for Turkish Airlines to operate in Liberia will commence. This engagement reflects ongoing efforts to enhance Liberia's air connectivity and economic growth through strategic partnerships with leading international carriers.



*Mr. Serhan Uuushan, CEO of Bea Mountain and Mr. Aytekin Serbest of Turkish Airlines*



*Atty. Augustin Tamba Deputy Director General for Technical Services and Zoe Johnson - Director of Economic and Regulations*

# *Liberia Civil Aviation Authority Director-General Leads Delegation at ICAO GISS 2025 and GSAM to Advance Aviation Safety and Global Partnerships.*



*The Liberian delegation, from left to right, Atty. Augustine Tamba Deputy Director General for Technical Services, Mr. Chester Clarke Administrative Assistant and Mr. Julius Dennis Director General*

From February 10 to 12, 2025, Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) Director-General Julius D. Dennis Jr. spearheaded a high-level delegation to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Global Implementation Support Symposium (GISS) 2025 and the inaugural Global Sustainable Aviation Marketplace (GSAM) in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Themed "The Next Flight: Innovating for a Sustainable Tomorrow," the symposium convened global aviation leaders, ministers, and experts to explore the future of aviation with a strong focus on sustainability, artificial intelligence integration, and enhanced

international cooperation. The event featured dynamic panel discussions on evolving regulatory frameworks, global collaboration, and advanced training critical to advancing the aviation sector. Director-General Dennis actively contributed to these discussions and held pivotal meetings with ICAO leadership, including Secretary-General Juan Carlos Salazar and Deputy Regional Director for West and Central Africa, Nica Mahzi. He provided updates on Liberia's progress in addressing findings from the 2022 Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) and reaffirmed Liberia's commitment to improving its Effective Implementation (EI) score. Secretary-General Salazar

praised Liberia's dedication and pledged continued ICAO support, with a regional delegation scheduled to visit Liberia in April for targeted assistance. On the sidelines, Director-General Dennis signed two key Technical Cooperation Agreements-with the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) and the Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority-establishing frameworks for technical cooperation and training to enhance capacity building and international partnerships. He also finalized a training cooperation agreement with the UAE GCAA, granting LCAA access to advanced training programs for aviation inspectors, a vital step toward strengthening Liberia's aviation safety oversight.

Additionally, Mr. Dennis engaged in productive discussions with Shannon Scott, Vice President for Sustainability and Environment at Emirates Airlines, to explore collaboration opportunities on sustainability initiatives.

Hosted by the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority in partnership with ICAO, GISS 2025 and GSAM gathered over 1,500 participants, including ministers, industry executives, and technical experts, all united in advancing aviation safety, sustainability, and innovation.

Director-General Dennis's participation underscores LCAA's proactive international engagement and its commitment to elevating Liberia's aviation standards through strategic partnerships, capacity development, and adherence to global best practices.

## *LCAA Bolsters Regional Ties and Standards at BAG 18th Plenary in Abuja*



*Messrs Daniel Johnson of RFIR and Stephen Johnson of LCAA*

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) recently reinforced its commitment to advancing regional aviation safety and security standards through its participation in the 18th Plenary of the Council of Ministers of the Banjul Accord Group (BAG). The high-level meeting, held in Abuja, Nigeria, from May 19-22, 2025, saw the Deputy Director General for Administration - DDGA, Stephen R. Johnson, representing the LCAA and contributing to pivotal discussions shaping West Africa's aviation future. The BAG Plenary serves as a critical platform for Member States to collectively address contemporary challenges and opportunities in civil aviation. Discussions during this

session focused on critical areas including:

- Advancing aviation safety and security across the sub-region.
- Harmonizing civil aviation regulations among BAG Member States to ensure seamless operations.
- Reviewing the implementation of previous resolutions.
- Strengthening safety oversight capabilities in line with international standards.
- Addressing emerging security threats through coordinated approaches.
- Ensuring the financial sustainability of the Banjul Accord Group's vital programs.

DDGA Johnson's presence underscored Liberia's dedication to collaborative efforts aimed at elevating aviation standards within West Africa. The Plenary concluded with the adoption of significant resolutions that will have direct implications for regulatory updates, capacity building initiatives, and resource allocation within BAG member states, including Liberia. "Our active engagement in the BAG Plenary is a testament to Liberia's unwavering commitment to upholding international best practices," stated DDG Johnson. "The resolutions adopted will directly influence our ongoing efforts at the LCAA to enhance regulatory oversight, operational capabilities, and ultimately, contribute to a safer and more efficient regional aviation environment."

The outcomes of this strategic gathering are expected to guide the LCAA in reviewing and updating its national civil aviation regulations,



*The Deputy LCAA Boss at the 18th Plenary of the Council of Ministers of the Banjul Accord*

*allocating resources for participation in BAG-sponsored technical assistance and training programs, and strengthening internal coordination mechanisms to ensure timely and effective implementation of all agreed-upon recommendations. This active participation solidifies Liberia's role as a proactive partner in regional aviation development.*

# *Liberian Delegation Visits Qatar to Strengthen Aviation Cooperation*



*Liberian and Qatari Aviation officials*



*LCAA Delegation In Qatar*

A high-level delegation from the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), led by its Director General Julius D. Dennis, Jr., visited Doha at the invitation of the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA).

The delegation included Mr. David M. Farhat, Chairman of the LCAA Board; Ms. Felecia C. Gray, Director of Human Resource and Manpower Development; Mr. William A. K. Sion Jr., Supervisor of Air Transport and Economic Regulations; and Mr. Joseph B. Johnson, Office Manager.

The President of the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority- QCAA Mohamed Alhajri welcomed the delegation, emphasizing Qatar's commitment to enhancing cooperation with African nations, including Liberia. Director General Dennis expressed gratitude for the invitation and discussed potential collaborations in training, infrastructure improvements, and aviation safety standards.

For his part, the Director General of the LCAA, Mr. Julius D. Dennis thanked the President of the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority for his invitation to Liberia Civil Aviation Authority to hold discussions and explore mutual areas of cooperation. He stated that the LCAA is exploring the possibilities of cooperation in the area of training, settlement of outstanding arrears with regional and international partners to enhance the CAA relevance, and NAVAIDS, Fire and Rescue upgrade, etc... DG Dennis mentioned that the Liberian aviation industry is

undeveloped, as a result of over fourteen years of war, and there is a need to improve the quality of services in the sector.

DG Dennis references the 2022 ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit which identified the aviation sector in Liberia's collective deficiencies with an unsatisfactory EI score of 27 percent. DG Dennis indicated that efforts are being made by Liberia to improve such a dismal score by following a vigorous road map and corrective action plan.

In response, the President of the QCAA Mr. Mohamed Alhajri pledged Qatar's support to training and settling Liberia's contributions to ICAO ahead of the upcoming general assembly. He also mentioned that the budget of QCAA cannot permit him to commit to infrastructure development, but the same can be explored through diplomatic channels. He also encouraged the CAA to solicit support from ICAO through its technical cooperation bureau. Mr. Alhajri promised to support the LCAA in its endeavor to seek cooperation with ICAO and at state level.

Both sides agreed that once a formal request is made by the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) through diplomatic means, all efforts will be applied to ensure it comes to fruition. enhancing aviation performance across Africa. A significant focus was placed on the future of the AFI region in light of the ICAO new 2026-2050 Strategic Plan.

The meeting reviewed critical programs,

including the AFI Plan, the Security and Facilitation (SECFAL) Plan, and the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF). Participants evaluated progress reports, work programs, and upcoming projects for 2025-2030, while also addressing organizational governance and oversight recommendations.

Alongside the main event, Director-General Dennis engaged in fruitful talks with senior officials from Malaysia's Civil Aviation Authority, exploring cooperation opportunities and advancing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Liberia and Malaysia.

Further discussions with the Singaporean delegation resulted in a commitment to develop tailored training programs for

efforts.

A significant highlight of the event was the focus on gender equality in African aviation leadership. The meeting underscored the urgent need to dismantle barriers, noting that only 11% of Africa's Civil Aviation Directors General are women; out of 54 Directors General, only 6 are females; a statistic that calls for concerted efforts to promote inclusiveness and diversity in the sector.

The LCAA's active participation at the 10th AFI Aviation Week reaffirms Liberia's dedication to advancing its aviation industry in alignment with global standards and regional cooperation.

## *Liberian Civil Aviation Authority Strengthens Global Partnerships at Victoria Falls Aviation Conference.*



*Left to Right ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar, LCAA DG Julius Dennis and Atty Augustine Tamba LCAA Deputy for Technical*

The Director-General of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), Mr. Julius D. Dennis Jr., led a Liberian delegation to the prestigious 10th Africa and Indian Ocean (AFI) Aviation Week, held from May 26-30, 2025, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

AFI Aviation Week, organized annually by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), is a vital platform dedicated to advancing safety, security, and facilitation strategies to support the growth and sustainable development of the aviation sector across the Africa-Indian Ocean region.

Opening the event, Zimbabwe's Vice President, His Excellency Kembo Mohadi, highlighted his government's commitment to infrastructure and human capital development, reinforcing the nation's dedication to upholding international aviation standards.

During the week-long event, Director-General Dennis actively participated in key discussions on regional aviation initiatives, shared Liberia's success stories and challenges, and collaborated on strategies aimed at enhancing aviation performance across Africa. A significant focus was placed on the future of the AFI region in light of the ICAO new 2026-2050 Strategic Plan.

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Alongside the main event, Director-General Dennis engaged in fruitful talks with senior officials from Malaysia's Civil Aviation Authority, exploring cooperation opportunities and advancing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Liberia and Malaysia.

Further discussions with the Singaporean delegation resulted in a commitment to develop tailored training programs for LCAA personnel, supported by the Singapore Aviation Academy, strengthening Liberia's capacity-building efforts.

A significant highlight of the event was the focus on gender equality in African aviation leadership. The meeting underscored the urgent need to dismantle barriers, noting that only 11% of Africa's Civil Aviation Directors General are women; out of 54 Directors General, only 6 are females; a statistic that calls for concerted efforts to promote inclusiveness and diversity in the sector.

The LCAA's active participation at the 10th AFI Aviation Week reaffirms Liberia's dedication to advancing its aviation industry in alignment with global standards and regional cooperation.

# LCAA Identifies With The Muslim Community

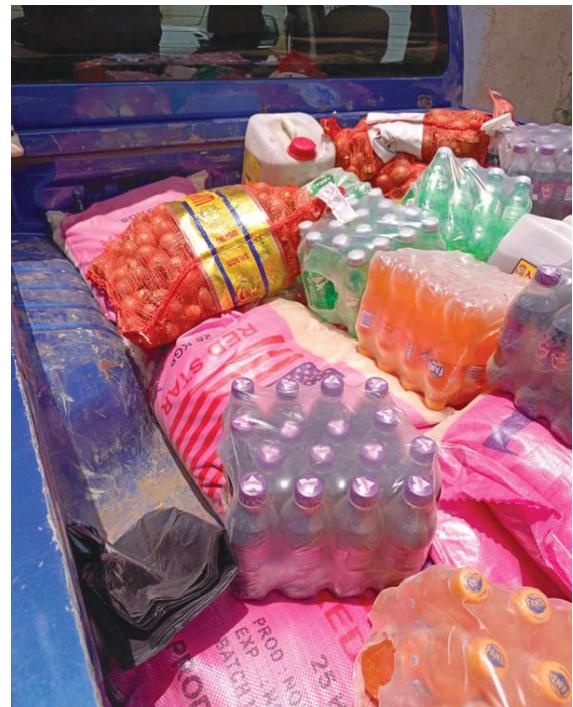


Assorted Food Items

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) recently demonstrated its commitment to community welfare through the donation of gift items distributed among six mosques located in the Arm-bush Curve, Cotton Tree, and Smell No Taste communities, during the annual Ramadan. This charitable initiative is part of the Authority's ongoing corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts aimed at giving back to the communities in which it operates.

The distribution of gifts to these six mosques was warmly received by community leaders and congregants alike. It embodies LCAA's dedication not only to excellence in aviation regulation and promotion, but also to social responsibility and community development.

As a key national institution, the LCAA recognizes that its role extends beyond aviation oversight to include positive engagement with local communities.



Ramadan Donations

This donation drive underscores the Authority's resolve to support local religious and social structures, fostering goodwill and strengthening community ties.

The LCAA's CSR programs reflect its broader vision of inclusive national development, demonstrating how public institutions can contribute to societal well-being alongside their primary mandates. Through initiatives like this, the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority continues to set a strong example of corporate citizenship in Liberia.

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## *Liberia Launches Aviation Awareness Week: A National Call to Action*



*Left to Right ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar, LCAA DG Julius Dennis and Atty Augustine Tamba LCAA Deputy for Technical*

Liberia has officially launched its Aviation Awareness Week, highlighting the pivotal role of aviation in national growth and development. The opening ceremony, held under the theme “Connecting Liberia: The Power of Aviation,” brought together key government officials, industry stakeholders, and the public to emphasize the urgent need for investment and innovation in the aviation sector.

Representing President Joseph N. Boakai, the Minister of State without Portfolio, Mamaka Bility described aviation as “the bloodstream of national progress.” She underscored that a modern, secure, and accessible aviation system is not a luxury but a

necessity for Liberia’s advancement. Minister Bility reflected on Liberia’s proud aviation legacy, from the establishment of Roberts International Airport—once a major West African hub—to the aspirations of countless Liberians for greater connectivity.

Bility stressed that aviation is more than just an industry; it is a driver of commerce, innovation, and cultural exchange. She called on all sectors to recognize aviation as central to Liberia’s prosperity, stating, “Reliable aviation builds investor confidence, opens new markets for Liberian businesses, and ensures no community is left behind.” The Boakai administration, she affirmed, is committed to a comprehensive national aviation

strategy, including infrastructure upgrades, international safety compliance, empowering the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), and expanding training opportunities for Liberians in aviation careers.

Transport Minister Sirleaf Ralph Tyler added a sense of urgency, proposing that aviation be declared a national emergency due to challenges such as outdated infrastructure and under-funding. He highlighted the critical roles of the LCAA, Liberia Airport Authority, Aircraft Accident Investigation Unit, and Roberts Flight Information Region in managing and safeguarding Liberia's airspace. Minister Tyler called for renewed vision, robust public-private partnerships, and increased financing to elevate Liberia's aviation sector to global standards.

LCAA Director General Julius Dennis, in his welcome remarks, acknowledged the sector's current challenges, referencing Liberia's 27.5% Effective Implementation score from the International Civil Aviation Organization, well below the global benchmark of 75%. However, he emphasized that this gap presents an opportunity for transformation. Dennis announced the upcoming Five-Year Strategic Aviation Master Plan, which will focus on modernizing air traffic systems, upgrading airport infrastructure, strengthening regulatory oversight, developing skilled aviation professionals, and adopting sustainable technologies.

"Aviation is a catalyst for economic

growth," Mr. Dennis stated. "It drives employment, boosts tourism, facilitates investment, and enhances emergency response capabilities. A world-class airport experience is not just a gateway for visitors; it is a symbol of national pride."

As Aviation Awareness Week unfolds, the message from Liberia's leadership and aviation experts is clear: the sector holds immense potential to drive national development and global competitiveness. Realizing this potential will require prioritization, sustained investment, and professional management.

*With strong commitments from the government and stakeholders, Liberia is poised to transform its aviation sector, ensuring that the sound of aircraft overhead signals a new era of progress and opportunity for all Liberians.*

# *Liberia Civil Aviation Authority Inspires Youth and Stakeholders During Aviation Awareness Week 2025*



*Awareness Week --- Students Visiting The RIA*

From May 6 to 9, 2025, the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) proudly hosted its Aviation Awareness Week, a dynamic initiative aimed at educating Liberians about the vital role aviation plays in national growth and development. This year's program featured a series of school visits, workshops, and international engagements that brought aviation closer to the people and highlighted the sector's potential to transform Liberia's future.

LCAA officials visited four key institutions: Robertsfield Baptist High School in Smell-No-Taste, Margibi County; Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Margibi County; B.W. Harris High School in Central Monrovia; and Harbel Multilateral High School in Harbel, Margibi County. At each school, students were captivated by presentations that showcased aviation's

contribution to economic development, connectivity, and nation-building. The team encouraged young minds to consider careers in aviation, inspiring many with motivational talks about becoming future pilots, air traffic controllers, engineers, and aviation professionals.

A significant part of the outreach was clarifying the distinct roles of aviation institutions. Students learned the difference between the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority, which regulates and oversees aviation safety and standards, and the Liberia Airport Authority, which manages airport operations. They also gained insights into the Air Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) and the Roberts Flight Information Region (RFIR), understanding how these agencies work



*Aviators Posing With B.W Harris Students During the LCAA Awareness Week*

tirelessly to keep Liberia's skies safe and secure. Some students were even treated to guided tours of Roberts International Airport's facilities, including the Air Traffic Control tower, offering a firsthand glimpse into airport operations.

The week was graced by esteemed international guests, including representatives from the Bajul Accord Group Safety Oversight Organization (BAGASO), the Secretary General of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), and Directors General from Nigeria and Sierra Leone's Civil Aviation Authorities, among other global aviation leaders. Liberia's President, His Excellency Joseph Nyumah Boakai, was represented by a proxy, alongside government officials, airline representatives, aviation schools, travel agencies, and members of the public, underscoring the event's national importance.

Throughout the week, the LCAA held workshops and interactive sessions covering air traffic control, aviation safety, airport operations, and aircraft maintenance. These activities deepened public understanding of aviation's economic impact and reinforced trust in Liberia's air transport system. The school outreach was a cornerstone of the program, designed to spark youth interest and promote aviation as an exciting and viable career path.

Aviation Awareness Week 2025 successfully educated students and the wider public on the critical roles played by Liberia's aviation institutions. It also fostered international collaboration and national dialogue on advancing Liberia's aviation sector for sustainable development. As the LCAA continues to champion safe skies and bright futures, the aviation awareness week marked a significant step toward inspiring the next generation of

Liberian aviation professionals and stakeholders.

## **LCAA Hosts EU Global Gateway Project Focal Point at Headquarters**

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) had the honor of welcoming Mr. Emmanuel Milton Tumusiime, the focal point of the European Union Global Gateway Project, to its headquarters in Harbel, Margibi County.

### **Spotlight on the Global Gateway Project**

The Global Gateway Project stands as a flagship initiative of the European Union, strategically targeting four Sub-Saharan African nations: Zambia, Burundi, Tanzania, and Liberia. This program is designed to identify and address crucial training needs within the aviation sectors of these countries, ensuring alignment with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) critical elements, specifically, element number four, which concerns technical guidance, tools, and the provision of safety-critical information.

### **Advancing Liberia's Aviation Standards**

During his one-week mission, Mr. Tumusiime collaborated closely with LCAA officials to pinpoint specialized training requirements linked to Liberia's

State Safety Concerns (SSCs), as highlighted in the ICAO 2022 audit of the country's aviation sector. The visit underscored the EU's commitment to capacity-building and sustained improvement in Liberia's aviation oversight and safety standards.

### **Fruit of Ongoing Collaboration**

This milestone visit developed from ongoing engagement between the LCAA, the European Union delegation in Monrovia, and Brussels Airlines. Their concerted efforts aim to strengthen the foundations of Liberia's civil aviation sector, facilitate compliance with international best practices, and ultimately promote sustainable aviation growth in the region.

*The LCAA's management underscores its dedication to ongoing partnerships, ensuring continued progress and international support for Liberia's aviation industry.*

# ***LCAA Staff Elevate Civil Aviation Standards Through Extensive Global Training***

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) is advancing in enhancing its technical and regulatory capabilities, driven by a comprehensive investment in the professional development of its staff. Over the past year, LCAA personnel have undergone rigorous, specialized training across various critical domains, positioning Liberia at the forefront of aviation standards in West Africa. These strategic development opportunities are already yielding measurable improvements in Liberia's aviation oversight, safety, and service delivery, ensuring compliance with international civil aviation standards.

## **Strengthening Air Navigation and Traffic Management**

LCAA's commitment to modernizing its airspace operations is evident in the advanced training undertaken by key personnel:

- Jemaman M. Khasu, ATM Inspector, completed three international programs focusing on ATC capacity analysis in Kampala (November 2024), search and rescue (SAR) coordination (ICAO AFI SAR Workshop and SAREX) in Luanda (June 2024), and a SAR Mission Coordinator course in Nairobi

(November 2024). This equips LCAA with enhanced capabilities in airspace optimization and incident management.

- A multi-departmental team, including Ernest D. Dardieh (CNS), Phillip K. Whoewieh (AIS), and Eugene Gar-Glahn (MET), completed Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) Concept of Operation training in Robertsfield (October 2024), a crucial step towards ICAO-compliant PBN standards.
- Phillip K. Whoewieh, AIS Inspector, gained advanced safety oversight and regulatory compliance skills through training in Nairobi (May-June 2024).
- Stephen S. Kesselly, PANS Officer, enhanced Liberia's expertise in complex airspace and flight procedure design (ICAO PANS-OPS) in Dakar (November 2024).
- Fredrick P. Sam, ATC/Met specialist, is currently pursuing a yearlong Postgraduate Diploma in Satellite Meteorology and Global Climate in Lagos, Nigeria (February 2025-February 2026), vital for proactive weather risk management.
- A cohort of nine Air Traffic Control personnel completed intensive Approach Procedural Control courses in Accra, Ghana, between March and August 2025, significantly boosting their proficiency in non-radar approach control for heightened airspace safety. Bolstering Safety, Security, and Technical Oversight

LCAA's dedication to robust regulatory oversight and safety is further demonstrated through specialized training in various technical fields:

- Ernest D. Dardieh, CNS Inspector, received certification in Auditing Techniques Aviation in Yaoundé, Cameroon (December 2024).
- Jemaman H. Khasu (ATM) and Eugene Gar-Glahn (MET) acquired foundational skills in aircraft accident investigation in Singapore (February 2025) and Margibi, Liberia (June 2024).
- Roosevelt K. Gedeh and Alphonso Togba (AGA specialists) enhanced their aerodrome inspection skills in Seoul, South Korea (January 2025). Mr. Togba also gained expertise in aerodrome safety management and PANS-Aerodromes in Seoul (July 2024).
- Alexander D. Zinnah, ICT Officer, completed an intensive Cybersecurity Course in South Africa (August 2024), bolstering LCAA's cyber resilience.
- Daniel Smallwood and Captain Samuel Mason from the Flight Safety Standards Department (FSSD) completed the ICAO-Government Safety Inspector Course for Airworthiness in Rwanda (February-March 2025), significantly elevating Liberia's aviation safety standards.
- Daniel Smallwood, Alphonso Togba, and Ernest D. Dardieh undertook the Human Factors in Aviation course in Yaoundé, Cameroon (December 2024),

emphasizing the integration of human-systems best practices for safety.

- Eugene V.S. Gar-Glahn, MET Inspector, completed the Air Navigation Services Meteorological Inspector Course in Nairobi, Kenya (October 2024), enhancing the accuracy of critical weather information.
- Alexander Saye Sr., Personnel Licensing Inspector, attended the Personnel Licensing for Regulators course in Singapore (July 2024), strengthening LCAA's management of personnel licensing systems. Cultivating Future Leaders and Administrative Excellence LCAA is also nurturing its future leadership and ensuring robust administrative support:
- A strong cadre of emerging leaders, including Irene J. Borbor (HRD), Tarlue A. Zeyon (AIM), John Stanley Nyumah (Aerodrome Technical Evaluation), and Franky T. George (Flight Safety Standards), completed the Aviation Foundation Program in Singapore (February and May 2025), building a solid foundation for future civil aviation leadership.
- Handford S. Cheeks from Aeronautical Information Management completed the AIS-AIM Program in Singapore (March 2025), sharpening LCAA's capabilities in managing vital aeronautical information.
- Finda Ndaborlor, Library Supervisor, earned a certificate in Advanced Digital

Library Management in Lagos, Nigeria (February 2025), enabling the modernization of LCAA's digital library resources.

- Fanta B. Konneh (Receptionist) and Shenell Sarnor (Administrative Officer) expanded their competencies through Advanced Executive Office Administration Skills Training in Nairobi, Kenya (March 2025), vital for enhancing organizational efficiency. Foundational Skills and Legal Expertise Beyond specialized aviation training, LCAA continues to invest in foundational skills and critical legal expertise:

- Between December 2024 and February 2025, twenty-one LCAA employees completed a rigorous basic computer literacy training at the head office, covering essential software and online collaboration tools.
- Twenty employees also embarked on training in Quick-books accounting software, enhancing proficiency in financial management for greater accuracy and efficiency.

- Atty. Anthony M. Gaye, Acting Legal Manager, undertook advanced training in ICAO TRAINAIR Plus International Air Law at Joint Aviation Authority Training Organization (JAA TO) Schiphol, Amsterdam (December 2024), gaining expertise in the ICAO legal framework and international air law instruments.

These comprehensive training programs reflect LCAA's unwavering dedication to building a skilled and knowledgeable workforce capable of navigating the complexities of civil aviation management. By enhancing technical, safety, administrative, financial, and legal expertise, the Authority is ensuring it remains compliant with international standards and ready to meet the evolving demands of the aviation sector.

Such strategic investments in human capital are crucial to sustaining Liberia's growing aviation infrastructure and solidifying LCAA's standing as a leader in regional and global aviation governance.

## *ICAO National Inspectors Course Advances Aviation Security in Liberia*



LCAA AVSEC Chief and ICAO Certified Instructor Nuah Padmore

As part of Liberia's ongoing commitment to enhancing national aviation security, a vital training initiative, the ICAO National Inspectors Course was launched, bringing together 20 key aviation personnel from the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) and the Liberia Airport Authority (LAA).

This internationally recognized course, developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), aims to empower national inspectors with the skills necessary to conduct effective oversight of aviation security measures, in full alignment with global standards and recommended practices. Among the participants, 16 represent the LCAA while 4 represent the LAA's Internal Quality Control Section of the Security Department.

Hosting this course in Liberia marks a major milestone in the implementation of the country's Aviation Security Improvement Plan. It not only strengthens national oversight capabilities but also fosters inter-agency collaboration critical to safeguarding civil aviation operations.

#### Key Benefits of Conducting the Course in Liberia

**Strengthened Institutional Capacity:** Empowers local inspectors to independently monitor and enforce aviation security standards.  
**Enhanced Coordination:** Promotes shared knowledge and operational synergy between the LCAA and LAA.  
**Sustainable Security Oversight:** Reduces reliance on external evaluations,



*Participant along with the Aviation Security Director in the Middle*

positioning Liberia for long-term autonomy in aviation security governance.

**Locally Relevant Training:** Reflects national challenges and priorities for greater impact and practical implementation.

**Strategic Security Advancement:**

Supports Liberia's broader goals of safe, secure, and efficient air transport services.

The course is a strategic leap toward building resilient aviation infrastructure and securing Liberia's skies through empowered personnel and sustained local action.

# *The Liberia Airport Authority Breaks Ground on Sanniquellie Airstrip*



*Ground Breaking Ceremony by Superintendent Gono*



*Nimba County Superintendent Meapeh Kou Gono Sandwiched by Samaritan Purse and Airport Authority Officials*

The Liberia Airport Authority (LAA), in collaboration with Samaritan's Purse International Relief, officially broke ground on the much-anticipated rehabilitation of the Sanniquellie Airstrip in Nimba County. This strategic project marks a vital advancement in enhancing regional air access and

fortifying humanitarian efforts in northeastern Liberia.

The ceremony brought together key stakeholders, including LAA officials, Samaritan's Purse representatives, local government leaders, and community members. The rehabilitation work, which

is valued at approximately \$125,000.00 United States dollars, will be carried out by Jungle Water Group of Investment, a Liberian-owned construction company, with completion expected within six months.

The Deputy Managing Director for Operations at the LAA, Mark Kuiah, emphasized the project's alignment with Liberia's national aviation development plan, underscoring its potential to drive economic growth and improve emergency response capabilities in the region. He also called on local authorities to promote aviation safety awareness as the sector expands in this part of the country.

A Samaritan Purse's spokesperson highlighted the critical role of aviation in

emergency situations, stating, "Aviation brings speed; when help is needed quickly, we can now respond effectively through this airstrip; this is not just an infrastructure, but a channel for both service and ministry."

Nimba County Superintendent Kou Meapeh Gono praised the partnership, noting that the airstrip's upgrade will resolve long-standing transportation challenges and unlock new avenues for development and prosperity. The Liberia Airport Authority reaffirmed its commitment to building a safe, reliable, and inclusive aviation network that connects all regions of Liberia while adhering to internationally acceptable standards and ensuring that the country's aviation sector continues to soar.

## *A New Era of Growth and Efficiency: LCAA Expands Office Space*



*Additional Office Apartment*

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) is boldly strengthening its operational capacity with the construction of additional office space. This initiative, spearheaded by the administration, reflects the commitment to improving efficiency and fostering a modern work environment that meets international aviation standards.

In addition to new office spaces being built, the LCAA has embarked on a major renovation effort to restore structures that have been abandoned for years; these buildings, once neglected, are now being transformed into functional spaces, providing much-needed room for departments that have long operated under cramped conditions.

The need for expanded office space cannot be overstated. As Liberia's

aviation sector continues to grow, the demand for enhanced regulatory oversight, safety compliance, and administrative coordination has increased. With more airlines, passengers, and aviation-related activities, the LCAA requires sufficient space to house critical departments, conduct technical training, and facilitate international collaborations.

This expansion is a reflection of the LCAA's dedication to progress. By modernizing its infrastructure, the authority is reinforcing its role in ensuring safe and efficient aviation operations. The improved workspace will foster productivity, enhance staff morale, and create an environment that aligns with global aviation standards.

Ultimately, the LCAA's investment in office expansion is more than just a structural upgrade; it's a statement of growth, vision, and commitment to Liberia's aviation future.

## *LCAA Furnishes Offices*



*A Partial View of New Office Furniture*

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), under its new management, has taken a significant step to improve its working environment by purchasing new furniture to replace the dilapidated ones that were inherited from the previous administration. This initiative is part of a broader effort to revitalize the aviation sector and enhance operational efficiency within the Authority.

The new furniture do not only symbolize a fresh start, but also reflect the LCAA's commitment to creating a professional and conducive atmosphere for its staff, as the institution embarks on ambitious reforms.

These reforms include addressing critical safety concerns highlighted in recent International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) audits, upgrading infrastructure, and implementing a

comprehensive Five-Year Strategic Aviation Master Plan, aimed at transforming Liberia's aviation sector into a competitive and secure industry that supports national development goals.

Director General Dennis has emphasized the importance of organizational restructuring, capacity building, and improving customer service at Roberts International Airport as part of the LCAA's strategic priorities. The refurbishment of office spaces with new furniture aligns with these priorities by fostering a motivated workforce capable of delivering on the Authority's mandate to meet international standards and attract more airlines to Liberia. This office upgrade is a visible sign of the LCAA's dedication to professional excellence and its readiness to lead Liberia's aviation sector into a new era of growth, safety, and efficiency.

## *Meet the New Wave: Liberia Civil Aviation Authority Welcomes Dynamic Contractors*



From left to right: Harris T. Nathan, Hydia Johnson, Archiebald Gweh, Alexander A. Fahn, Thelma M

A bold energy has swept through the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority; thanks to the arrival of its newest group of contractors, a blend of style, innovation, and undeniable enthusiasm. Gathered against the vibrant backdrop of the authority's headquarters, this diverse team represents a fresh era in aviation services, and the new contractors have made a bright splash, as they are in readiness to take on challenges.

Diversity in action: The group is notably mixed, including men and women, with backgrounds as varied as their fashion choices, sporting casual jeans as well as tailored garments, with different kinds of footwear.

United for excellence: As they take on their new roles, they are confident, collaborative, forward-looking, and show not just camaraderie, but genuine excitement to drive Liberia's aviation sector to new heights.

As the Authority continues its mission of connecting Liberia to the world, these fresh faces will be at the heart of transformation and service. Expect creative ideas, advanced technical skills, and a strong spirit of teamwork from this crew.

The future of civil aviation in Liberia just got a lot brighter, and this young team is ready to soar.

## *LCAA Women Celebrate International Women's Day*



*LCAA Women at the International Women's Day Celebrations - Ministerial Complex*

The women of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) proudly participated in the 2025 International Women's Day celebrations held at the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Ministerial Complex in Congo Town. The vibrant event brought together women from diverse backgrounds across Liberia, united under the global theme "Accelerate Action" and the national theme "Accelerate Action to End Gender-Based Violence and Achieve Gender Equality in Liberia."

The program was a colorful and inspiring occasion, showcasing the achievements and resilience of women in various sectors, including aviation.

LCAA's attendance highlighted the important role women play in the aviation industry, reinforcing the Authority's commitment to promoting gender equality and empowering women within the sector. The event featured speeches, cultural displays, and discussions aimed at accelerating progress toward gender equity, reflecting the spirit of International Women's Day worldwide.

By joining this significant celebration at the EJS Ministerial Complex, the LCAA demonstrated its dedication to fostering an inclusive environment where women in aviation and beyond can thrive and soar to new heights.

## *Celebrating the New Interns of Liberia Civil Aviation Authority: Paving the Way for Youth Empowerment*



From left to right: Robert M. Tellewoyan, Jr., James P. Vincent, Jr., Willimina Dorley, Pauline Bass, Prudence F. Blama-Kai, and Emmanuel V. Canneh, Jr.

The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) has welcomed a dynamic group of interns, with open arms for 2025, marking another significant advancement in the Authority's commitment to youth empowerment and national development. These six talented individuals represent a new generation of achievers eager to learn, grow, and contribute to Liberia's thriving aviation sector.

From diverse backgrounds and fields of study, each intern brings fresh perspectives and a palpable enthusiasm. Their inclusion is more than just an opportunity; it is a transformative step towards equipping Liberia's youth with practical skills and meaningful career experiences.

As the interns settle into their new roles, they will be exposed to industry-leading training, mentorship, and hands-on assignments. This initiative not only enhances their technical abilities and professional capacity, but also instills the values of collaboration, innovation, and public service.

### Impact on Youth Empowerment

The LCAA's intern program is designed with a forward-thinking vision, bridges education and employment, fosters self-confidence, and inspires ambition among Liberia's young population. By making real-world aviation expertise accessible to interns, the Authority ensures they are well prepared to become leaders, problem-solvers, and

advocates for safety and excellence in civil aviation.

**Skill Development:** Interns gain vital IT, communication, regulatory, and technical skills vital for aviation and beyond.

**Mentorship:** Through daily guidance from seasoned professionals, they receive personalized coaching and career advice.

**Community Building:** Interns forge lasting friendships and professional networks, strengthening Liberia's talent pipeline.

### LCAA's Commitment to National Progress

Under visionary leadership, LCAA continues to invest in the next generation. The ongoing internship program demonstrates the Authority's role as a catalyst for empowerment, and providing young people with a platform for success and contributing to a skilled workforce essential for Liberia's economic growth.

The Authority's consistent focus on creating youth opportunities makes it a beacon of hope for students and job seekers nationwide, reaffirming its promise: to soar higher together, with every Liberian included. We congratulate the 2025 intern class and celebrate their journey.

Their story is a testament to what young Liberians can achieve when given the tools to fly.

## INDUSTRY NEWS AND TRENDS

### *Navi Mumbai International Airport User Development Fees*

The upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport, expected to open later this year, will introduce a User Development Fee (UDF) for passengers.

The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) has approved interim fees that will apply until March 31, 2026, or until a permanent tariff is set. Passengers departing on domestic flights will pay Rs 620, while international departures will incur a fee of Rs 1,225. Arriving passengers will also be charged Rs 270 for domestic and Rs 525 for international flights. These fees exclude taxes, making the total cost higher. Compared to Mumbai's existing Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Navi Mumbai's UDF is significantly steeper, with domestic departures costing about three times more and international departures nearly twice as much.

### *Wizz Air Malta Expands to Suceava, Romania*

Wizz Air Malta is set to establish a new operational base in Suceava, Romania, beginning in December 2025. The airline will station two Airbus A321-200N aircraft at this location, expanding its presence in Eastern Europe and enhancing connectivity for Romanian travelers. This move aligns with Wizz Air's strategy to grow its network and capture emerging markets in the region.

### *SMBC Aviation Capital Leasing to Air Cairo*

SMBC Aviation Capital has announced a lease agreement with Air Cairo for an Airbus A320neo, with delivery scheduled for 2026. This addition supports Air Cairo's fleet expansion plans and its efforts to increase capacity and improve fuel efficiency, contributing to more sustainable operations.

## ***Industry Challenges: Passenger Growth, Economic Viability, and Sustainability***

The global aviation sector is navigating several pressing challenges. Surging passenger traffic demands increased capacity and infrastructure investment,

while airlines and airports face economic viability pressures amid fluctuating fuel prices and operational costs.

Additionally, the industry is under growing pressure to adopt sustainable growth practices to meet ambitious Net-Zero 2030 emissions targets. The development of electric and hybrid aircraft technologies is gaining momentum as a key solution to reduce aviation's carbon footprint and promote environmentally responsible air travel.

## ***Airline Excellence Awards***

Recognition of airline performance continues across regions, highlighting operational excellence and customer service. Delta Airlines was awarded for North America, Ryanair for Europe, Copa Airlines for Latin America, Emirates for the Middle East, ANA for Asia-Pacific, and Ethiopian Airlines for Africa. These awards reflect the ongoing commitment of airlines worldwide to improve passenger experience and operational standards.

## ***Qatar Airways' New Widebody Paint Facility***

Qatar Airways is investing in a state-of-the-art wide-body aircraft paint facility aimed at reducing aircraft ground time for operators in the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent. This facility will enhance maintenance efficiency and turnaround times, benefiting airlines operating in these regions.

## ***airBaltic's Winter Schedule Expansion***

airBaltic is expanding its winter schedule by adding three new destinations and significantly increasing flight frequencies to Dubai and Amsterdam. This expansion supports the growing demand for leisure and business travel and strengthens airBaltic's network connectivity.

## ***US-Boeing Settlement Controversy***

A recent settlement between Boeing and the US government over two fatal crashes that claimed 346 lives has been met with criticism. A lawyer representing victims' families described the deal as "repugnant," reflecting ongoing tensions and calls for accountability in the aftermath of these tragedies.

## Safety Corner

### Effective Communication for Hazard Prevention

Clear and consistent communication plays a crucial role in preventing risks. Technicians must promptly inform their team about any potential hazards, changes in signage, and updates to personal protective equipment (PPE). Regular safety meetings are essential to keep everyone informed, ensure tools and the work environment remain safe, and address any emerging safety concerns promptly.

## Additional Safety Tips:

- \* Always perform a thorough safety check before starting any task to identify and mitigate hazards early
- \* Use the correct Personal Protective Equipment - PPE for each job and ensure it is well-maintained and properly fitted
- \* Report all safety incidents and near-misses immediately to help prevent future accidents
- \* Keep walkways and work areas clean and free of obstructions to reduce trip and fall risks
- \* Keep floors dry
- \* Stay updated with safety protocols and participate actively in training sessions
- \* Encourage open dialogue among team members to share safety ideas or concerns without fear of judgment

Promoting a safety-first culture through communication and vigilance helps protect everyone on the job.

## Employee Spotlight



### Celebrating Abraham Togba's Outstanding Commitment at LCAA

We are proud to shine this month's Employee Spotlight on Abraham Togba, a dedicated team member whose remarkable work ethics and

### Celebrating Abraham Togba's Outstanding Commitment at LCAA

We are proud to shine this month's Employee Spotlight on Abraham Togba, a dedicated team member whose remarkable work ethics and unwavering commitment have made a lasting impact at the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA).

Abraham first joined the LCAA family in 2013 as a contractor. Over seven years, his consistent professionalism and dedication caught the attention of the administration. His work ethic and commitment to excellence led to his full employment with the Authority in September 2021.

Abraham plays a vital role in maintaining the impeccable condition of all official LCAA vehicles,

ensuring they are always clean and presentable. His dedication goes beyond his formal duties; he willingly extends his efforts by washing vehicles for other employees around the Authority, often for little or no compensation. This selflessness embodies the true spirit of service and teamwork that LCAA values deeply.

Abraham Togba's selection for the Employee Spotlight honors his hard work, professionalism, and willingness to embrace constructive feedback. His positive attitude

and commitment to excellence continue to inspire all who work alongside him

.Please join us in celebrating Abraham Togba, a shining example of dedication and humility at the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority. His story reminds us that true commitment is recognized and rewarded, and that every role contributes to our collective success. Thank you, Abraham, for your outstanding service and for setting a high standard for us all.

## *Upcoming Events*

The 42nd Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization - ICAO Assembly is to be held from September 23-October 3, 2025 in Montreal, Canada.

The ICAO Assembly is the organization's highest decision-making body, meeting at least once every three years and convened by the ICAO Council; it includes representatives from all 193 Member States and numerous international organizations.

The Assembly sets global policies for the next three years and thoroughly reviews ICAO's work program covering technical, economic, legal, and cooperation areas. Its decisions guide the activities of ICAO and its Member States, as outlined in the Convention on International Civil Aviation. Each Member State has one vote, and most decisions are made by a majority vote unless otherwise specified in the Convention.

## *Sports*

**Beaten, But not Broken: LCAA Football and Kickball Teams Participate in the 2025 Inter-Ministerial League**



*LCAA Men's Football Team*



*LCAA Women's Kickball Team*

The 2025 Inter-Ministerial League, held at the vibrant S.K.D Sports Complex, once again brought together the finest talents across Liberia's government ministries and agencies. Among the spirited competitors were the football and kickball teams of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), whose performances, though ultimately concluding in the preliminary rounds, left an indelible mark of brilliance and determination.

**A Season of Passion and Perseverance**  
Both LCAA teams entered the tournament with high hopes and unwavering commitment. The football squad showcased tactical prowess, teamwork, and heart-stopping moments that had fans on the edge of their seats. Similarly, the kickball team displayed remarkable agility and coordination, demonstrating the skill and spirit that have become synonymous with the LCAA's sporting culture.

Despite facing tough opposition and the heartbreak of early elimination, the teams' efforts were nothing short of inspiring. Each match was a testament to their dedication, discipline, and the strong camaraderie that binds these athletes together. The roar of the crowd and the support from colleagues and supporters fueled their drive, making every attempt on goal and every defensive play a celebration of their collective spirit.

### **Looking Beyond Defeat: Eyes on 2026**

Though the journey in the 2025 tournament ended sooner than hoped, the LCAA teams remain undeterred. The experience gained has only strengthened their resolve to come back stronger.

Training sessions have already resumed with renewed vigor, focusing on refining skills, enhancing fitness, and

fostering even greater teamwork.

The 2026 Inter-Ministerial League is now firmly in their sights. With lessons learned and spirits high, the LCAA football and kickball teams are preparing to write a new chapter, one that promises to be filled with resilience, growth, and the pursuit of excellence.

A Community United in Support  
The Liberia Civil Aviation Authority

community stands proudly behind its teams, celebrating their courage and the values they embody: perseverance, unity, and passion. The journey may have had its challenges, but the story of the 2025 Inter-Ministerial League is ultimately one of hope and determination, and a reminder that every setback is a setup for a greater comeback.

As we look forward to next year's tournament, let us continue to rally behind our teams, encouraging them as they soar to new heights, both on and off the field.

## EDITORIAL

### *Together, We Rise – Together, We Fly*

As we reflect on the strides made so far in 2025, the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) stands at a pivotal moment in our nation's journey toward a modern, efficient, and globally competitive aviation sector. Our theme, ***“Together, We Rise ..... Together, We Fly,”*** captures not only the spirit of unity and resilience that defines our teams and staff but also the ambitious vision we hold for Liberia's aviation future.

The aviation sector is more than just transportation; it is a vital artery of national development. It connects our people, fuels commerce, supports tourism, and opens Liberia to the world. Yet, to fully realize this potential, we must embrace transformation with urgency and purpose.

### *A Vision for the Future*

Our vision is clear: to develop modernized airports equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge technology that meet and exceed international standards. This includes upgrading runways, terminals, and firefighting equipment, as well as implementing resilient power supplies to ensure uninterrupted operations. We are finalizing a comprehensive Five-Year Strategic Aviation Master Plan that will serve as the definitive road-map to achieve these goals. This plan focuses on:

- \*Modernizing airport infrastructure across Liberia
- \*Enhancing air navigation and air traffic control systems with advanced radar and technology
- \*Strengthening regulatory oversight and safety compliance to international standards
- \*Investing in human capital by training

and mentoring young Liberians for careers in aviation

\*Introducing sustainable, green technologies aligned with global environmental commitments

### ***A Call to Action: Invest in Liberia's Aviation Sector***

The LCAA urges the national government to recognize aviation as a strategic priority and to significantly increase investment in this sector. Aviation has the capacity to contribute billions of dollars to Liberia's economy by generating employment, attracting foreign direct investment, boosting tourism, and facilitating trade. It is a catalyst for economic growth that can transform Liberia's global standing and regional leadership.

We call on policymakers, private sector partners, and development stakeholders to rally behind this vision. Collaborative efforts and sustained funding are essential to turn plans into reality. The time for fragmented approaches and delays is over, and Liberia's aviation sector must be treated as a national emergency to unlock its full potential.

### ***Together, We Rise***

The challenges ahead are significant, but so is our resolve. The resilience demonstrated by our sports teams in the recent Inter-Ministerial League and the commitment shown by our staff and partners exemplifies the spirit needed to overcome obstacles and soar to new heights.

### ***Together, We Fly***

With unity, strategic planning, and bold investment, Liberia's aviation sector will not only rise but will fly, connecting our nation to the world, driving inclusive growth, and securing a prosperous future for all Liberians.

Let us embrace this journey with determination and pride.

***Together, we rise - Together, we fly.***

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