



ACI Africa marks the 500 carbon accredited airports milestone



- Over **500** airports now actively engaged in addressing their impact on the climate globally
- **29** of them are accredited in **Africa**
- **13** accredited airports in **7** countries at Level 1 'Mapping', representing **12.0%** of African air passenger traffic.
- **10** accredited airports in **6** countries at level 2 'Reduction', representing **20.6%** of African air passenger traffic.
- **4** accredited airports at level 3 'Optimisation', representing **2.9%** of African air passenger traffic.
- **2** accredited airports at level 3+ 'Neutrality', representing **1.8%** of African air passenger traffic.

Casablanca, 30 May 2023: ACI Africa joins the global celebration of a major sustainability milestone for the airport industry. More than 500 airports across the world are now certified under the *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme – the independent framework guiding airports on the pathway to more sustainable operations. Africa boasts 29 airports actively engaged in climate action under the auspices of this global carbon standard for airports.

Ali Tounsi, Secretary General, ACI Africa commented: *“The Africa region is pleased to associate itself with the 500 carbon accredited airports milestone globally and to recognize, as well, the contribution of African airports in this celebration. ACI Africa is sparing no effort towards the commitment of the African airport industry to the Net Zero Carbon Goal by 2050. To this effect, the Environment and Sustainable Development Awards for African airports, launched at the beginning of May, is testimony of the sensitization campaign led by ACI Africa to recognize the growing importance of environmental management in the overall airport performance. Last but not least, the Sustainable Aviation Academy of ACI Africa is actively pursuing its mission of supporting capacity and competency building on the African continent by creating a pool of environment experts to support the sustainable development goals of the African airport industry.”*

The top achievers in Africa include Félix-Houphouët-Boigny Abidjan International Airport of Côte D’Ivoire and Libreville Leon Mba International Airport of Gabon, both at ACA level 3+ Neutrality, meaning that these two airports have reduced the CO2 emissions under their direct control to the maximum and are offsetting the remaining Scope 1 (all direct GHG emissions) and Scope 2 (indirect GHG emissions from consumption of purchased electricity, heat or steam) carbon emissions as well

as emissions from staff business travel, using internationally recognised offsets. These airports, together with the four that are accredited at Level 3 Optimisation – Enfidha Hammamet in Tunisia, Dakar Blaise Diagne in Senegal, La Reunion Roland Garros in La Reunion and Dzaoudzi Pamandzi in Mayotte – are working actively with other companies operating on the airport site to trigger third party reductions. These airports are going beyond their scope of direct control to contribute to increased sustainability of industry partners as well.

To summarise, the most recent achievements (from the beginning of 2023) include:

- Upgrade of Libreville Leon Mba International Airport of Gabon to Level 3+ Neutrality
- Successful renewal at Level 3 Optimisation of La Reunion Roland Garros Airport
- Upgrade of Dakar Blaise Diagne International Airport in Senegal to Level 3 Optimisation
- Upgrade of Dzaoudzi Pamandzi Airport of Mayotte to Level 3 Optimisation
- Successful renewal at Level 2 Reduction of four ACSA airports in South Africa - Cape Town, King Shaka, O R Tambo and Chief Dawid Stuurman
- Entry of Pierrefonds Airport of Reunion Island at Level 2 Reduction

Niclas Svenningsen, Manager for Programmes Coordination at the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) said: *“The collective impact of 500 airports around the world working towards a common goal of carbon reduction is a force to be reckoned with. Accelerating decarbonisation has now become more urgent than ever, against the backdrop of alarming scientific reports flowing from the IPCC and real shifts in the planet’s climate witnessed by us all. We need to decarbonise as fast as possible, or face daunting externalities of unchecked rise in emissions. It is heartening to witness the sheer number of airports from five continents all involved in Airport Carbon Accreditation. We need more initiatives of this standing and reach to guide us through this challenging time of transformation.”*

ENDS

Note to editors

Airport Carbon Accreditation is the only institutionally-endorsed, global carbon management certification programme for airports. It independently assesses and recognises the efforts of airports to manage and reduce their carbon emissions through 6 levels of certification: ‘Mapping’, ‘Reduction’, ‘Optimisation’, ‘Neutrality’, ‘Transformation’ and ‘Transition’.

Through its 6 levels of certification, *Airport Carbon Accreditation* acknowledges that airports are at different stages in their journey towards comprehensive carbon management. It is a programme for airports of all sizes, extending beyond hubs and regional airports with scheduled passenger traffic, to include general aviation and freight-focused airports.

Find the full list of accredited airports and more information about the programme here:

www.airportcarbonaccreditation.org