



AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL AFRICA

Special Newsletter 33rd ACI Africa Annual General Assembly, Regional Conference, Exhibition, & Airshow

Welcome to this special edition of our ACI Africa newsletter, where we recap the key moments from the 33rd Annual General Assembly, Regional Conference, Exhibition & Airshow, 16-22 September 2024 in Johannesburg, South Africa. This year's event, themed "Flying Together: Airport Collaboration and Partnerships," brought together aviation leaders from across Africa to explore critical topics like technology, sustainability, safety, and workforce development.

Join us as we highlight the key discussions, workshops, and achievements that are shaping the future of African aviation.

ACI Africa Team

Exploring Key Topics Through Workshops



The 33rd ACI Africa Annual General Assembly, Regional Conference, Exhibition & Airshow recently took place at the ACSA International Indaba Centre in Johannesburg under the theme "*Flying Together: Airport Collaboration and Partnerships*." The event gathered over 75 airport members, representing more than 265 airports across 54 African countries.

The conference addressed critical topics in airport management, including technology innovation, safety, environmental sustainability, and regulatory models. Notable workshops included discussions on airport growth strategies led by Lufthansa Consulting, operational efficiency through technology by SITA, sustainability and wildlife conservation by WWF, and workforce development by Strikitsa Consulting.



Participants also engaged in a hands-on session on Rescue and Firefighting Practices at O.R. Tambo International Airport, hosted by Airports Company South Africa.

The event provided a vital platform for aviation professionals to exchange knowledge, build partnerships, and explore solutions that will shape the future of African air travel. The key insights and collaborative efforts from the conference promise to drive continued progress in the industry.

ACI Africa Second Train-the-Trainer Excellence Program of 2024



Following the success of the first edition in Cairo earlier this year, ACI Africa successfully launched its second ACI Africa / ACI Global Training Train-the-Trainer Excellence Program in Johannesburg, South Africa. Held alongside the ACI Africa Regional Conference, this three-day program was part of the African Airports Development Program (AADP).

The program focused on equipping African airport personnel with advanced training and facilitation skills to enhance their expertise in airport management, operations, and capacity building. This initiative is a crucial step in ensuring that African airports are led by well-trained, capable instructors who can drive the industry towards excellence.

The program once again proved to be a valuable opportunity to boost the knowledge and skills of participants, preparing them to lead the future of African aviation.

ACI Africa Regional Committees Shape Strategic Discussions for the Future of African Aviation



The second and third days of the 33rd ACI Africa Annual General Assembly and Regional Conference in Johannesburg were marked by the ACI Africa Regional Committees Meetings, where critical discussions took center stage.

Day two kicked off with meetings for the Safety & Technical Committee, Facilitation, Technology & Innovation Committee, and Human Resources Committee. These sessions brought together stakeholders to tackle pressing challenges faced by African airports, focusing on improving operational efficiency, safety standards, and integrating technological advancements. Participants shared best practices and explored collaborative strategies to drive progress across the continent.

Day three continued the momentum with meetings focused on Environment & Sustainable Development, Economics, and Security. Building on the previous day's discussions, delegates delved into critical issues affecting African airports, addressing sustainable practices and enhancing airport security.



In conjunction with the committee meetings, the ACI Africa Executive Committee Meeting and the 72nd ACI Africa Board Meeting took place. These gatherings provided a platform to strategize future initiatives and policies that will guide ACI Africa's mission of promoting sustainable growth in the aviation sector.

The ACI Africa Regional Committees Meetings are an essential platform for fostering collaboration, sharing knowledge, and generating actionable insights to improve airport operations and passenger experiences across Africa.

A Spectacular Evening at the ACI Africa Welcome Reception and Exhibition Opening



The 33rd ACI Africa Annual General Assembly, Regional Conference, Exhibition & Airshow had a vibrant welcome reception, offering a perfect opportunity for delegates to network and connect. The evening also marked the grand opening of the ACI Africa Exhibition, where over 30 organizations and aviation stakeholders showcased their latest innovations, products, and services driving the future of the industry.

The event was graced by distinguished guests who emphasized the significance of partnerships and collaboration in shaping the aviation sector. Their presence, along with the impressive exhibition, set a positive tone for the conference, highlighting the dynamic growth and contributions of African airports and stakeholders.

Opening of the ACI Africa Regional Conference : Engaging Panels on Collaboration, Climate Change, and Innovation



The ACI Africa Regional Conference officially opened with great excitement in Johannesburg. The event welcomed a distinguished group of leaders, including Ms. Mpumi Mpofo, CEO of Airports Company South Africa (ACSA); Mr. Ali Tounsi, Secretary General of ACI Africa; Mr. Justin Erbacci, Director General of ACI World; Mr. Emanuel Chaves, ACI Africa President; and Hon. Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, Mayor of Ekurhuleni.

The opening ceremony was graced by Advocate James Mlawu, Director-General of Transport, representing the Minister of Transport. His presence underscored the importance of collaboration between government and industry stakeholders in advancing aviation across Africa.



Following the official opening, the conference featured an insightful panel discussion with prominent African airport CEOs, who emphasized the critical role of collaboration and partnerships in enhancing air transport and driving socio-economic development across the continent.

As the event progressed, attendees explored urgent topics, including the challenges posed by climate change and the integration of smart technologies to enhance airport operations and passenger experiences.

Recognizing African Airports' Achievements in Carbon Accreditation



During the ACI Africa Conference, several African airports were honored for their remarkable achievements in the Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) Program, managed by ACI EUROPE. This global initiative sets the standard for airport carbon management, and we proudly celebrated the efforts of airports that have reached significant levels of accreditation over the past year.

Certificates were awarded to the following airports for their commitment to climate action and sustainability:

- Aéroport La Réunion Roland Garros International Airport - Level 3 Optimization
- Aéroport International Blaise Diagne - Level 3 Optimization
- Maya Maya International Airport - Level 3+ Neutrality
- Enfidha-Hammamet International Airport - Level 4 Transformation
- Abidjan Félix Houphouët Boigny International Airport - Level 4+ Transition

These airports are setting a strong example for the aviation industry, showcasing leadership in environmental stewardship. We congratulate them and encourage others to continue advancing toward a greener, more sustainable future!



Celebrating Excellence in Airport Emergency Management at the ACI Africa Gala Dinner



During the ACI Africa Gala Dinner in Johannesburg, the 2024 Safety Awards, themed "Excellence in Airport Emergency Management and Resilience," were presented to honor the exceptional achievements of African airports in maintaining high safety standards.

We proudly recognized the following winners for their outstanding performance:

Category 1: More than 50,000 Aircraft Movements

- 2nd Place: O.R. Tambo International Airport, South Africa
- Winner: Julius Nyerere International Airport, Tanzania

Category 2: Between 20,000 & 50,000 Aircraft Movements

- 2nd Place: Chief Dawid Stuurman International Airport, South Africa
 - Winner: Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport, Mauritius
-



Category 3: Between 10,000 & 20,000 Aircraft Movements

- Winner: Borg El-Arab International Airport, Egypt

Category 4: Less than 10,000 Aircraft Movements

- Winner: Aéroport de Korhogo, Côte d'Ivoire

These awards highlight the commitment and dedication of these airports to ensuring safety and resilience in their operations. Their exemplary efforts set a high standard for airport emergency management across the continent, contributing to a safer and more secure aviation environment.



Congratulations to all the winners for their excellence in safeguarding African skies!

Global Threats, Business Trends, and Closing Celebrations at the ACI Africa Regional Conference



The final day of 33rd Annual General Assembly, Regional Conference, Exhibition in Johannesburg was filled with impactful discussions and exciting celebrations.

The day began with a presentation on global aviation threats, focusing on the importance of remaining vigilant in the face of emerging challenges like geopolitical tensions, economic instability, and climate change, especially as the industry continues its recovery from the pandemic.

Following this, the ACI Africa Business Partners Forum explored trends driving non-aeronautical revenues. Industry leaders discussed innovative strategies to maximize revenue opportunities beyond traditional aeronautical sources, with a focus on collaboration and sustainable growth within the airport ecosystem.



Sustainability was further emphasized in a session on the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Framework for Airports. The discussion highlighted the need for airports to adopt holistic approaches to integrate sustainable practices that address environmental impacts and enhance social responsibility.

The ACI Africa Annual General Assembly provided a platform for members to discuss key initiatives and strategies that will shape the future of aviation across the continent. This important gathering facilitated networking and strengthened partnerships among industry professionals.

The conference concluded with a vibrant closing ceremony. The event featured the official handover to the next hosts, the Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA), who will welcome the ACI Africa community in April 2025 in Arusha, Tanzania. A celebratory raffle with exciting



prizes, including air tickets sponsored by Kenya Airways and South African Airways, added to the evening's festivities.

As the curtains closed on this year's conference, participants left with renewed connections, valuable insights, and a shared commitment to advancing aviation across Africa. The excitement now builds for the next gathering in Tanzania!

ACI Africa Conference Delegates Experience Thrilling Air Show and Unforgettable Social Excursions



During the ACI Africa Conference in South Africa, delegates had the opportunity to attend the renowned Africa Aerospace and Defence Air Show and Defence Exhibition. This event featured exhilarating air demonstrations, parachute drops, aerobatic performances, and impressive mobility track displays. Delegates were treated to cutting-edge aircraft showcases from industry leaders, highlighting the latest advancements in aerospace technology.

In addition to the air show, delegates enjoyed memorable social excursions, immersing themselves in the cultural richness of South Africa. Some explored the profound history at the Apartheid Museum, while others experienced unforgettable wildlife encounters at the Lion and Safari Park, nestled in the Cradle of Humankind.



The day culminated in a delightful lunch at Restaurant Vilakazi in Soweto, where delegates shared their experiences and strengthened connections within the aviation community. It was a remarkable opportunity for networking and celebrating the spirit of collaboration.

[Airports Council International Africa \(ACI Africa\)](#)

[African Airports Development Program \(AADP\)](#)

Contact : Tel : +212 662 300 640, E-mail : aci-africa@aci-africa.aero, <https://www.aci-africa.aero>

Follow us:    