

**UGANDA AIRLINES CEO
2023 SPEECH FOR THE
MAY 2023 AT THE MEDIA**



**AND AFRAA PRESIDENT
55TH AFRAA-AGA 30TH
CENTRE**

The Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala, Minister of Works and Transport

The Executive Director, Media Centre (who has been gracious enough to allow us to launch AFRAA-AGA here)

The Press and;

My Colleagues from Uganda Airlines

Welcome to the 55th edition of the African Airlines Association Annual General Assembly, the first to be held in Uganda, the Pearl of Africa, and hosted by Uganda Airlines. The AGA will be held under the high patronage of the Ministry of Works and Transport, and I would like to thank Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala for standing by us and accepting to be the Patron and anchor of this great event.

This year, Uganda Airlines pledges to open its doors of hospitality, warmth, and service to all delegates of the 55th AFRAA-AGA. This will be no ordinary General Assembly; it will be exciting and engaging, with many learnings drawn from industry developments.

When I took on the Presidency of AFRAA in December 2023, I pledged to focus on four areas, which included;

1. Cutting the bureaucracy and red tape of regulatory regimes that impede intra-Africa connectivity.

2. Creating pathways for increased partnerships and collaboration within the continent to reduce the fragility of start-up Airlines.
3. Support initiatives that promote sustainable operations of Airlines on the continent by taking bold steps to invest in research.
4. Advocate for open skies through fully operationalizing the Yamoussoukro declarations.

I believe that this year's Annual General Assembly will embark on a journey to address these issues and fragility points that the industry grapples with. I also look forward to plenaries that will discuss industry action-based topics dear to my heart, like increasing safe spaces for women to thrive in aviation, creating optimism for the youth in the industry and beyond sustainability. The event will also bring together cross-industry players in Tourism, Regulation, and Taxation that impact the industry.

Uganda Airlines is honoured to host the 55th AFRAA Annual General Assembly as the official carrier. We implore all Ugandans to take pride in this event and the future opportunities it brings.

For God and My Country