

European Union funded Aviation Sector Support Programme to Zambia promotes Safety in the Civil Aviation Industry

The European Union's 1.8 million Euro (approx. 20 million Zambian Kwacha) support under the Aviation Sector Support Programme, through an agreement with the European Air Safety Agency (EASA), continues to assist Zambia to enhance its air safety operations and management. Under this technical assistance programme, on the 21st of May, an aviation safety promotion event was hosted by the Zambia Aviation Services Training Institute (ZASTI) which gathered more than 60 aviation industry stakeholders from Zambia. During the event, Mr. Shingalili Billieard, ZASTI's principal, presented the plans for ZASTI to become a reference establishment for civil aviation training in the region.

Speaking during the event, the representative of the European Union Delegation to Zambia and COMESA, Mr Adam Grodzicki reiterated that "*the significance of safety to the aviation industry cannot be overemphasised as the industry is built on the backbone of its ability to define, implement and assure the highest safety standards*". He further stated that "*improved state safety oversight will have a positive impact on the growth of the aviation sector, enabling it to contribute to job creation and the overall economic growth of the country*".

After the event, sector stakeholders visited the new Lusaka airport terminal building, currently under construction, guided by the Zambia Airports Corporation Ltd representatives (ZACL).

Another important sector meeting followed on 23rd May 2018, when representatives of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, EU Delegation to Zambia and COMESA, Civil Aviation Authority, EASA, ZACL and other Industry representatives gathered to discuss the performance of the Aviation Sector Support Programme which will continue till 2021 and will provide further technical assistance to key institutions and sector stakeholders with a view to enabling Zambia to meet the required international standards for civil aviation.

Please visit the project's website for further information and details at:

<https://easa-eu.wixsite.com/eu-assp-z>

More information of the activities of the EU Delegation to Zambia and COMESA can be found at:

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zambia_en

