



## AfDB's Integrated Aviation Transformation Program (IATP) Airlines, Capital & Connectivity Forum

### Concept Note and Two-Day Agenda

#### 1. Overview

Africa's aviation sector is a critical enabler of regional integration, trade, tourism, and economic competitiveness, yet it remains structurally underdeveloped relative to the continent's size, population, and growth potential. Despite strong underlying demand, African airlines and aviation infrastructure continue to face persistent constraints, including high costs of capital, ageing fleets, limited access to long-term financing, under-developed airport and airspace infrastructure, and fragmented regulatory and operating environments.

In response to these challenges, the African Development Bank (AfDB) is launching the Integrated Aviation Transformation Program (IATP); a continent-wide platform designed to modernize Africa's aviation ecosystem and mobilize private, institutional, and concessional capital at scale.

Within this context, AfDB is convening a two-day Airlines, Capital & Connectivity Forum as a focused engagement and dissemination event for the IATP. The Forum will bring together African aviation stakeholders (ie. airlines, lessors, OEMs, banks, DFIs, ECAs, etc..) to engage in a structured dialogue on sector priorities, investment needs, and financing solutions.

The Forum is designed to move beyond high-level discussion by clearly articulating the IATP architecture, aligning stakeholders around practical and bankable solutions, and building momentum toward pilot transactions across the aviation infrastructure. In doing so, it aims to position the IATP as a credible delivery mechanism for strengthening connectivity, competitiveness, and resilience across Africa's aviation value chain.

#### 2. Objectives

The objectives of the Airlines, Capital & Connectivity Forum are to:

1. Present the IATP architecture and highlight the Pan-African Aviation Financing Platform (PAFP) and associated financing and risk-sharing instruments.
2. Facilitate structured engagement between African airlines and capital providers to align operational realities, risk perceptions, and bankability requirements.
3. Identify and advance priority pilot transactions to support early implementation and demonstrate scalable aviation financing solutions.



4. Strengthen collaboration across the African aviation ecosystem in support of connectivity, competitiveness, and regional integration objectives under AfCFTA and SAATM.

## **Day 1 – Airline Economics, Fleet & Capital**

Theme: Understanding Market Realities and Mobilizing Capital

**08:30 – 09:00 | Registration & Networking Coffee**

**09:00 – 09:30 | Opening Session: Africa’s Aviation Imperative**

Opening Remarks:

- African Development Bank (AfDB) – Senior Management
- African Airlines Association (AFRAA) – Secretary General
- African Union Commission (AUC) – Infrastructure & Transport

Objective: Frame aviation as a strategic enabler of AfCFTA, trade, tourism, and regional connectivity, and position the IATP as the Bank’s delivery platform.

**09:30 – 10:15 | Presentation: Africa’s Aviation Growth Outlook**

Presenter: AFRAA

**10:15 – 10:30 | Coffee Break**

**10:30 – 11:30 | Panel 1: Airline Economics in Africa – What Drives Bankability**

Moderator:

- African Airlines Association (AFRAA) – Secretary General

Panelists:

AFRAA Member airline Chief Executive Officer / Chief Financial Officers

**11:30 – 12:15 | Presentation: Introducing the IATP & AFCF Architecture**

Presenter:

- African Development Bank – Director, Infrastructure and Urban Development
- Overview of the IATP pillars, AFCF instruments, and the Pan-African Aviation Financing Platform (PAFP).

**12:15 – 13:30 | Networking Lunch**

**13:30 – 14:30 | Panel 2: Aircraft Financing & Leasing – Making Africa Investable**

Moderator:

- Aviation Finance Professional

Panelists:

- SMBC Aviation Capital – Executive Vice President
- AerCap – Executive Vice President



- Japan Bank for International Cooperation — Senior Executive
- Marsh — Senior Executive
- Afreximbank – Global Head, Project & Asset Finance

### 14:30 – 15:15 | OEM Deep Dive: Fleet Renewal & Beyond the Aircraft

Moderator:

- Airline Professional

Participants:

- Airbus
- Boeing
- ATR
- Embraer
- airline Chief Financial Officer
- Aircraft insurance company

### 15:15 – 15:30 | Coffee Break

### 15:30 – 16:30 | Panel 3: Cargo, Logistics & Trade Corridors

Moderator:

- Logistics and infrastructure specialist

Panelists:

- Ethiopian Cargo & Logistics Services
- Astral Aviation
- VINCI Airports
- DP World
- AGL (Africa Global Logistics)
- African Development Bank – Infrastructure Lead
- Airport Authority

### 16:30 – 17:00 | Day 1 Wrap-Up

Summary remarks by the session moderator and AfDB, highlighting key takeaways and previewing Day 2.

## Day 2 – Infrastructure, Sustainability & Execution

Theme: From Strategy to Transactions

### 09:00 – 09:30 | Morning Coffee & Networking

### 09:30 – 10:15 | Keynote: Aviation Infrastructure as an Investment Asset Class

Keynote Speaker:

- Infrastructure Investment Expert – CIO / Partner



## 10:15 – 11:15 | Panel 4: Airport & Airspace Infrastructure Financing

Moderator:

- Infrastructure finance expert

Panelists:

- VINCI Airports or Groupe ADP – Senior Executive
- Meridiam Infrastructure Africa Fund — Senior Executive
- ASECNA
- TAAG Angola Airlines
- African Development Bank – Infrastructure Lead
- Airport Authority

## 11:15 – 11:30 | Coffee Break

## 11:30 – 12:15 | Panel 5: MRO, Training & Skills Development

Moderator:

- OEM Aviation technical specialist

Panelists:

- Ethiopian Airlines MRO & Training
- Leonardo
- SAA Technical
- Airbus or Boeing Services
- Kigali Centre of Excellence
- Aviation Academy

## 12:15 – 13:30 | Networking Lunch

## 13:30 – 14:30 | Panel 6: Sustainability, SAF & Climate-Aligned Aviation

Moderator:

- Climate finance specialist

Panelists:

- EU — DG Move
- Kenya Airways
- Ethiopian Airlines
- SAF Developer / Energy Partner
- African Development
- AUC/AFAC

## 14:30 – 15:15 | Transaction Workshop: What an IATP Pilot Deal Looks Like

Participants (semi-closed session):

- Ibom Air – Chief Financial Officer
- Air Côte d'Ivoire – Chief Financial Officer



- SMBC Aviation Capital – Executive Vice President
- AerCap – Senior Vice President
- African Development Bank – Structuring Lead

Objective: Translate the IATP architecture into concrete pilot transactions.

**15:15 – 15:30 | Coffee Break**

**15:30 – 16:30 | Closing Panel: From Conference to Commitments**

Moderator:

- Senior African Development Bank representative

Panelists:

- African Airlines Association (AFRAA) – Secretary General
- SMBC Aviation Capital – Executive Vice President
- Airbus or ATR – Senior Executive
- Ethiopian Airlines or Kenya Airways – Chief Executive Officer

**16:30 – 17:00 | Closing Remarks & Way Forward**

African Development Bank – announcement of follow-up workstreams and pilot transaction pipeline.