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Press Release: African Aviation Leaders in Safety and Operations gather in Luanda, Angola



Luanda, Angola, 18 March 2026 – The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) Operations and Safety Workshop is taking place this week in Luanda, Angola, bringing together aviation leaders from across Africa to strengthen collaboration and advance performance across the region, under the theme, “Collaborate to Succeed”. The workshop is kindly hosted by [ENNA E.P.](#), the national air navigation company of Angola.

In her opening remarks, Maureen Isika, Chair of the CANSO Safety Working Group, commented: “Operational work is inherently interconnected and inseparable from safety. As our traffic volumes grow and our skies become more complex, the traditional silos between ‘Safety’ and ‘Operations’ are no longer sustainable. We are here because we have heeded the call of our members: to move beyond silos and work as one unified force to shape the future skies of Africa. We cannot achieve efficient capacity without a robust safety foundation, and we cannot maintain safety without agile, modern operations.”

Throughout the workshop, participants will address key priorities shaping the future of air traffic management in Africa, including Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM). A key highlight of the 2026 workshop is an extended session on Advanced Air Mobility

(AAM), reflecting the rapid rise of drones and unmanned systems across the continent. As these technologies become increasingly integrated into sectors such as logistics and medical delivery, the focus is on ensuring their safe and seamless integration into existing air traffic management systems without compromising the safety of traditional aviation.

Other key sessions address priorities shaping African air traffic management, including cybersecurity in the ATM environment, the impact of operational safety on certification, safety culture and human performance, air traffic flow management/A-CDM, and an extended AAM workshop on drone integration/UTM. Parallel break-out sessions for safety and operations teams, plus joint plenaries like discussions on the Complete Air Traffic System (CATS) CONOPS and ASECNA's ATM/CNS Master Plan, are designed to break down silos and foster joint planning.

The workshop reinforces Africa's commitment to collaborative progress, recognising that the region's aviation future depends on aligning safety, operations, and innovation.



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About CANSO

CANSO – the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation – is the global voice of airspace and is shaping our future skies. Its members support over 90 per cent of the world's air traffic and include air navigation service providers, airspace users and operators, manufacturers, and aviation industry suppliers. CANSO raises the bar on global ATM performance by connecting the industry to share knowledge, expertise and innovation.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Angy Odysseos
Media Relations Manager, CANSO
+31 6 25 18 37 95
angy.odysseos@canso.org

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800 Rue du Square-Victoria, Suite 1500, Montréal, Quebec H4Z 1J8, Canada

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