

Remarks of CANSO Deputy Director General, Simon Hocquard, at the CANSO Africa Conference 2018, in Mombasa on 4 September 2018



By the year 2050, the population of Africa will have doubled and one in four people on earth will be African. From an air transport perspective, this translates to an annual 5.9 per cent increase in the coming decades, making the African aviation market one of the fastest growing markets in the world.

So how does the air traffic management industry in this region, including organisations such as ours in this room, effectively tackle this rising demand and what mechanisms are available to help? That is what we're here to explore.

Welcome

As Boni has already said, I am Simon Hocquard, Deputy Director General at CANSO. I would like to welcome you all to the CANSO Africa Conference 2018, and it is my pleasure to welcome the honourable Najib Balala, Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife. I would also like to thank Captain Kibe, Director General of KCAA, the Chairman and his Board for kindly hosting us here in Mombasa – what a fantastic Welcome Reception last night – Aireon, IDS and all our other sponsors.

One of CANSO's roles is to support and facilitate the transformation of global ATM in a fast-changing world, and to help create an industry which is both flexible and agile, ready to take on the challenges of the future. As demonstrated by the new *CANSO: Fit for the Future of ATM*, our aim is to have a strong regional focus that can help implement solutions and deliver benefits at an operational level – and be a strong advocate for the industry, championing the needs and ambitions of our Members in a rapidly changing environment.

So as we consider how to tackle the pace of change in Africa this week, I want to re-emphasise that each of you as CANSO Members has a role to play which I consider a fantastic opportunity to thrive through its CANSO Membership.

At the beginning of the year, at the 30th African Union (AU) Heads of State and Government Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 26 countries from across the region signed a commitment to establish a Single African Air Transport Market.

I believe this is a real milestone for the region's aviation industry, aiming to boost connectivity between African states, encourage cross-border investment and innovation, and improve business operations and efficiency, in the context of an ever-growing aviation market. While it refers to the aviation industry as a whole, the agreement clearly sets expectations for the ATM industry and its role in safely, effectively and efficiently meeting rising demand.

What CANSO and all of us here should take away from this and reflect on during this Conference and beyond is therefore important.

Breaking it down, I see there are three clear objectives we have the opportunity to explore this week. In no particular order, these are working together to advocate for ATM and create strong industry partnerships; embracing the tools and technologies, processes and procedures that allow us to do this effectively; and finding common solutions to common problems.

Working together

Let's look at the first of these - working together. Within Africa, and anywhere in the world, partnership and collaboration are key to improving ATM safety, operations and boosting connectivity. In fact, I believe that achieving anything requires more than one person or company – we all need help from each other. Whether that is commitments across the industry or between CANSO Members, good solid partnerships allow us to be effective advocates *and* cooperative partners on both a strategic and practical level.

Within Africa, CANSO is focussed on building a strong presence and developing its relationships with industry partners, including ICAO, AFCAC, IATA and ACI, AFRAA, AASA etc. to holistically improve aviation safety, improve infrastructure and training, and promote seamless airspace, improve efficiency and therefore reduce costs. This includes initiatives like the ICAO AFI Plan and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG), Regional Aviation Safety group (RASG AFI), ACI Africa and the IATA/AFRAA/AFCAC Aeropolitical Forum.

On a membership level, the Africa CANSO CEO Committee (AFC3) also offers an important forum for the region's key players to come together to discuss industry initiatives and expectations and to formulate strategies for the promotion and transformation of ATM in the region.

The AFC3 met yesterday which gives me the opportunity to ask you all to join me in welcoming Hamza Johari, Director General of the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority as the new Chair of the AFC3 who will speak very shortly, and to formally thank Thabani Mthiyane, the former AFC3 Chair and CANSO Executive Committee Vice Chair, for his hard work, leadership and dedication.

With change comes opportunities, and now is an excellent time to reconsider our role within the region and the presence we have built, and during this week, after each session, we should perhaps ask ourselves whether we are leveraging our industry and membership networks to their full potential, and if there is more that can be done to build more influence?

Embracing tools and technologies

Robust partnerships not only help to enhance operations on a strategic level, but also provide an effective vehicle for delivering practical solutions, tools and technologies, which is the second objective.

Since the CANSO Africa Conference last year, CANSO Members have together come a long way in developing tools and best practices that will enable Africa's service providers to improve safety, service provision and boost connectivity.

For example, there has been a significant collaborative effort to improve the safety standards of ATM operations across the region. 21 ANSPs have taken part in the *CANSO Africa ATM Safety Peer Review Initiative*, using CANSO tools and best practice to develop and implement robust safety management systems that meet the requirements of global standards; our best practice approach has also been

adopted by ICAO in helping to address safety performance across the region; and our SEANS-Safety initiative has generated increased interest, including an ATNS assessment earlier this year.

CANSO has also demonstrated the power of partnerships in other areas. In March we held a CDM and A-CDM Symposium in partnership with ICAO and hosted by ATNS in Durban. The event brought the ATM industry together to focus on the importance of CDM and A-CDM, and mapped out the work that needs to be done for successful implementation in Africa. During the course of this conference, we plan to build on this and delve deeper into this area of collaborative operations and identify a workable plan for successful implementation.

From a technology perspective, CANSO is also working hard to encourage Members to utilise their network to learn about the latest product innovations and find collaborative solutions to operational issues. Through the CANSO community and events like these, Members can discover new concepts and the latest tools available and likewise better understand the ATM challenges and requirements that need to be met. Yesterday some of you will have taken the opportunity to join the Aireon workshop and get a unique insight into space-based ADS-B implementation in Africa, and I encourage you all to make the most of the Conference's networking breaks and exhibition area to learn more about the practical challenges providers face, the possible solutions available and the technological partnerships that are already being successfully established across the industry.

Common solutions to common problems

CANSO offers a unique opportunity to leverage the knowledge and expertise of both its regional and global network and ultimately a way to address common problems and find common solutions, which is the third of our objectives.

CDM and ATFM are both key examples of how the ATM aviation community can work together to improve ATM performance, embrace technology and resolve shared issues – and therefore provide a very timely topic for this year's conference.

CDM and ATFM are based on the basic principles of the proactive engagement of industry partners and maintenance of shared processes and procedures. ATFM is considered the key enabler of interoperability and effective data sharing, while CDM facilitates efficient collaborative working and seamless operations. Together they provide a mechanism for the whole aviation community to efficiently manage capacity, safety and facilitate growth efficiently.

During the course of the Conference we will find out more about how such processes and procedures can offer common solutions to common problems. We will consider the benefits of each, learn from shared experiences within the CANSO network and about the technologies available, and ultimately create plans for effective implementation across Africa. You will also have the opportunity to get insight into the latest safety initiatives and best practice through round table discussion and workshops, and consider other initiatives that strongly benefit from a collaborative regional approach, such a performance-based navigation (PBN) and integrating new entrants to airspace.

These are all areas in which peer-to-peer learning and collaborative working is essential and where common solutions can provide answers to common issues.

The time is now

So before I welcome Hamza Johari to the stage, I would just like to finish by saying thank you all for joining us on this journey of discovery and for taking the time to understand what together we can achieve.

CANSO is a strong vehicle for advocating global and regional change and developing and implementing operational best practice through a wide network of industry thought-leaders and innovators. So take advantage of that representation, knowledge and experience and find a way to apply it in a manner which fits your organisation. After all, we hold the key to our own destiny, and together we can collaboratively improve operations across Africa, embrace the new tools and technologies, processes and procedures and find common solutions to common problems.

I am confident that together we can help build the future of ATM in Africa. Thank you.