



MEDIA RELEASE

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LAUNCH OF SCHEDULED PASSENGER FLIGHTS BETWEEN ENTEBBE AND ABUJA UGANDA AIRLINES—12TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Uganda Airlines has commenced scheduled flights between Entebbe International Airport and Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja.

The inaugural flight landed at Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport on Thursday 12th September 2024 and was received by officials from the Nigerian government led by Dr. Hassan Ejibunu, Director Air Transport, who represented Hon. Festus Keyamo, SAN, Minister for Aviation and Aerospace Development of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Others were Ambassador Nelson Ochege, High Commissioner of Uganda to Nigeria, President of Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). The Ugandan delegation was led by Hon. Fred Byamukama, State Minister of Transport.

The commencement of direct flights is a momentous milestone in the relations between Uganda and Nigeria, as it will promote economic, commercial, political and social interactions between the Governments and Peoples of our two countries.

As part of further strengthening cooperation between the two countries, Uganda Airlines and Uganda High Commission convened the 4th Nigeria-Uganda Trade & Business Forum on Friday 13th September 2024. The event brought together stakeholders from Uganda and Nigeria to discuss opportunities that exist in both countries.

In his remarks, Amb. Nelson Ochege congratulated Uganda Airlines on reaching the milestone of launching the Abuja route, which becomes the Airline's 14th destination. He said the Abuja route, together with Lagos, are a bridge between Uganda and Nigeria. It is expected to facilitate trade, tourism and investment, which is at the core of the Mission's mandate.

Hon. Fred Byamukama said the direct flight from Entebbe to Abuja and Lagos will significantly reduce the cost of doing business between Uganda and Nigeria by significantly reducing the time of travel as well as airfare.

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Uganda Airlines will be flying to Abuja twice a week (Thursdays and Sundays). The launch of Abuja flights brings the total number of destinations by Uganda Airlines to 16, including Entebbe – Lagos which was launched in October 2023.

Uganda is committed to improving intra-Africa trade and travel. Improving connectivity through air travel, roads, railway and water transport across the continent is a sure way of ensuring sustainable growth and development for Africa. **END**

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