

2nd UN Tourism/ICAO Ministerial Conference

On Tourism and Air Transport in Africa

Luanda, Republic of Angola

22-24 July 2025

Provisional Programme

Monday, 21 July 2025

Venue: Hotel InterContinental Luanda Miramar

14:00-17:00 **Registration**

Tuesday, 22 July 2025 – Expert Workshops / Preparatory Sessions

Venue: Hotel InterContinental Luanda Miramar

08:00 - 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 - 09:30 **Opening ceremony**

**Group Photo*

09:30 - 09:45 **Coffee Break**

09:45 - 11:00 **Session 1: Leveraging Technology and Innovation to Shape the Future of Tourism and Air Transport**

This session will explore how emerging technologies and digital innovations are transforming Africa's tourism and air transport sectors. Focus will be on smart mobility, digital tourism platforms, and advanced connectivity solutions such as "smart airports" and route planning tools. Experts will discuss how these technologies can address sector-specific challenges, scale effectively, and integrate seamlessly into Africa's infrastructure, driving sustainable growth, improving accessibility, and enhancing the overall travel experience. The session will emphasize the importance of strategic investments, public-private partnerships, and aligned policies to foster the successful adoption of these technologies.

11:00 -12: 15

Session 2: Advancing Air Transport through Tourism in Africa

This session will examine how tourism can address the pressing connectivity challenges in Africa, particularly in the air transport sector. Panelists will discuss existing challenges and factors that have positively impacted connectivity, as well as those that could enhance it in future. They will also address regulatory barriers, and the need for stronger policy integration between tourism and air transport. The focus will be on identifying and addressing root causes of these challenges and examining systemic changes needed for more resilient sectors.

12:15 - 13:30

LUNCH

13:30 - 14:45

Session 3: Building the Case for Investment in Tourism and Air Transport Infrastructure

Investment is a critical driver of growth in both air transport and tourism in Africa. This session will examine the current investment landscape in these sectors, exploring the challenges faced by investors and the promising opportunities ahead. Panelists will discuss financing mechanisms, public-private partnerships, and key investment areas such as airport development, digital infrastructure, mobility solutions, and tourism as a thriving business sector. The session will focus on attracting significant funding for essential infrastructure and innovation projects that can unlock the full potential of Africa's tourism and air transport industries.

14:45 - 16:00

Session 4: Strengthening Regional Integration and Accessibility in Tourism and Air Transport

This session will focus on the practical strategies and collaborative solutions needed to drive the growth of Africa's tourism and air transport sectors. Panelists will discuss how regional cooperation such as the African Continental Free Trade Area ([AfCFTA](#)) and Single African Air Transport Market ([SAATM](#)), along with policy innovations, can create seamless travel and improve operational efficiency. Experts will examine how regional initiatives can be harmonized to promote the free movement of people and goods, tourism, and trade. The session will emphasize actionable steps to unlock growth and foster long-term sustainability in both sectors. Additionally, the session will address the need for accessible air transport and tourism infrastructures for people with limited mobility, ensuring that the benefits of growth are inclusive and widely distributed.

16:00 - 16:15

Key Takeaways - Expert Workshops

16:15 - 16:30

Closing Remarks

18:00 - 19:00

Welcome Cocktail

Venue: Museu das Forças Armadas-Fortaleza

**N.B.: Coffee break will be provided throughout the sessions.*

Wednesday, 23 July 2025 – Ministerial Conference on Tourism and Air Transport

Venue: Hotel InterContinental Luanda Miramar

09:00 - 10:00

Registration

10:00 - 11:00	Opening Ceremony <i>*Group Photo</i>
11:00 – 11:15	Signature of Bilateral MoUs – TBC
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 - 12:30	<u>Session 1: High-Level Panel - <i>Tourism as a Catalyst: Aligning Air Transport and Policy for seamless travel in Africa</i></u> <p>Building on the outcomes of the preparatory session, this high-level session will explore how tourism can drive air connectivity and regional economic growth in Africa. Building on the expert workshops, panelists will discuss aligning tourism and aviation policies to create a seamless, competitive travel ecosystem. Focus will be on regulatory frameworks, public-private partnerships, and strategic investments that enhance regional mobility. Key initiatives such as the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will be highlighted as drivers for both sectors. The session will conclude with actionable recommendations for strengthening synergies between tourism and air transport to unlock new growth opportunities.</p>
12:30 - 13:30	<u>Session 2: High-level Panel - <i>Harnessing Innovation and Technology to Shape the Future of Tourism and Air Transport</i></u> <p>This session will explore the transformative role of technology and innovation in advancing Africa's tourism and air transport sectors. Panelists will discuss digital platforms, smart mobility, and advanced infrastructure solutions that enhance connectivity and improve the travel experience. The session will emphasize the need for strategic investments, policy alignment, and regional collaboration to drive innovation and ensure that technological advancements are effectively integrated into Africa's travel ecosystem. Insights will also be shared on how these innovations can contribute to sustainable growth, accessibility, and competitiveness across the continent.</p>
13:30 - 15:00	LUNCH
15:00 - 16:00	<u>Session 3: High-Level Panel - <i>Advancing Mobility and Accessibility in Tourism and Air Transport</i></u> <p>This high-level Interactive Panel Discussion will explore the future of mobility and the importance of ensuring that air transport and tourism are accessible to all, including people with limited mobility. It will address the infrastructural and technological changes required to improve mobility within the continent and ensure that transportation systems are inclusive. The discussion will also touch on the importance of accessible tourism experiences, advocating for policies and strategies that make air transport and tourism more inclusive, affordable, and equitable for all.</p>
19:00 – 21:00	Gala Dinner Venue: EPIC SANA Hotel

Thursday, 24 July 2025 – Ministerial Conference on Tourism and Air Transport

Venue: Hotel InterContinental Luanda Miramar

09:00 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 11:15	<u>Session 4: High-Level Panel - Fostering Resilient and Sustainable Growth in Africa's Tourism and Air Transport Sectors</u> This high-level session will bring together ministers, policymakers, and industry leaders to outline a shared vision for building resilient and sustainable tourism and air transport systems in Africa. Emphasizing regional integration, infrastructure development, policy harmonization, and financial innovation, the session will identify priority actions to enhance connectivity, unlock investment, and drive inclusive economic transformation. The panel will conclude with the formulation of a joint Ministerial Statement, reaffirming the commitment of African States to coordinated action and long-term sectoral resilience in alignment with AU Agenda 2063, UN Tourism and ICAO frameworks.
11:15 – 11:30	Commitment to Actions - The Luanda Ministerial Statement
11:30 – 12:00	Closing Remarks
12:00 – 13:30	LUNCH
14:00 – 17:00	Social Programme Option 1: Palácio de Ferro / Paseo de Barcos Option 2: Visit of a Golf Course Option 3: Visit of the Dr. Antonio Agostinho Neto International Airport (tbc)

In compliance with the United Nations system's environmental protection policy, the working documents **will not be distributed on paper** at the venue of the event. Therefore, **the delegates are requested to bring with them copies of the documents.**