

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kenya Airways partners with IATA to host the 37th IATA Ground Handling Conference 2025

Nairobi, Kenya, April 04, 2025.....The 37th International Air Transport Association (IATA) Ground Handling Conference (IGHC) will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from **13 to 15 May 2025** in partnership with Kenya Airways (KQ). The conference is expected to bring together over 1,500 delegates from around the world and will focus on **modernizing operations, workforce development, and enhanced collaboration** to elevate performance across the aviation sector. His Excellency **Dr. William Samoei Ruto**, President of the Republic of Kenya, will officially open the conference.

The IGHC will be historic as it marks the first time the conference is hosted on the African continent. This significant milestone underscores **Africa's rising prominence in global aviation** and Kenya's leadership as a regional hub. This historic event is a testament to the increasing influence of the African aviation industry and serves as a moment of pride for all involved.

Kenya Airways: Connecting Africa to the World.

Speaking ahead of the event, Allan Kilavuka, Kenya Airways MD & CEO, stated, *"As Africa's aviation leader, Kenya Airways is honoured to pioneer this landmark event. Hosting IGHC aligns with our mission to drive innovation, foster partnerships, and showcase Africa's readiness to shape the future of global air travel. Hosting IGHC 2025 in Kenya reaffirms our commitment to advancing the industry—domestically and continentally while unlocking prosperity and connectivity for the African Continent.*

Elevating Ground Handling for a Sustainable Future

According to IATA Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General, the conference will focus on strengthening coordination and collaboration so ground handlers can drive better performance in the sector. "Ground handling is not just a part of the aviation industry; it serves as its backbone by ensuring safety, efficiency, and resilience, a key focus of this year's IGHC. The theme of '**Elevate**' underscores the commitment to driving better ground handling performance through modernizing operations, investing in the workforce, and strengthening coordination and collaboration. This is a crucial aspect of the industry that we all need to be aware of and work towards improving."

Conference delegates will have an opportunity to enrich their knowledge on topics such as:

- **Ground Operations:** Innovations in ground support equipment (GSE), hydrogen-powered GSE adoption, and harmonized safety training.
- **Baggage Operations:** Breakthroughs in real-time tracking, electronic bag tags, and modern messaging standards.
- **Collaboration & Innovation:** Strategies for public-private partnerships, regulatory advancements, and airport-handler synergy.



The conference also advances IATA's **Focus Africa** initiative, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable aviation growth across the continent.

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About Kenya Airways:

Kenya Airways, a member of the Sky Team Alliance, is a leading African airline flying to 42 destinations worldwide, 35 of which are in Africa. Prior to the COVID pandemic, the airline carried a record number of over five million passengers in 2019. Its fleet comprises of wide body Boeing aircrafts, this includes its flagship B787 Dreamliner and narrow body Embraer E190 aircrafts. The on-board service is renowned and the lie-flat business class seat on the wide-body aircraft is consistently voted among the world's top 10. Kenya Airways takes pride in being at the forefront of connecting Africa to the World and the World to Africa through its hub at the new ultra-modern Terminal 1A at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. For more information go to www.kenya-airways.com or call our 24-hour Customer Services Desk: +254 20 327 4747, Twitter: @KenyaAirways and @KQSupport, Facebook: @OfficialKenyaAirways, Instagram: @OfficialKenyaAirways. For media enquiries, please contact Kenya Airways Corporate Communications: Corporate.communications@kenya-airways.com

About IATA

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) represents **340 airlines (83% of global air traffic)**. Learn more at www.iata.org.

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