

PRESS RELEASE:

Fahari Aviation Scales Up Use Of Drone Technology For Agriculture In Kenya By Signing Agreement With Sasini PLC

Nairobi, 25th August 2022 – Fahari Aviation, a subsidiary of Kenya Airways PLC has signed a service agreement with Kipkebe Ltd, which is a subsidiary of Sasini PLC, to offer precision agricultural services. Fahari Aviation will use drone technology on the farm to offer agricultural services such as fertilizer application and chemical spraying on the tea farm. Kipkebe farm will be used to benchmark the effectiveness of drone use with a possibility to expand the services offering to other Sasini estates.

Fahari Aviation will deploy high capacity drones to cover over 3000 acres of tea plantation in less than two weeks, saving an overall 50% on cost and time efficiency in fertilizer spraying and spreading. Drone technology in agriculture also offers better accountability of product supply as well as improved accessibility of tough terrains.

Speaking on the signed agreement, Hawkins Musili, General Manager at Fahari Aviation said, "Agriculture forms the backbone of our economy and drones have revolutionized agriculture by offering farmers major cost savings, enhanced efficiency within the region. We are proud to announce this agreement as Fahari Aviation seeks to reach new heights for more precise applications within the agricultural sector."

Fahari Aviation is responsible for launching and implementing future aviation technologies and is part of the airline's strategy of contributing to the sustainable development of Africa by championing new dimensions within the industry with the use of drones and unmanned aircraft.

Silas Njibwakale, Managing Director at Kipkebe Limited said, "We are indeed very excited to partner with Fahari Aviation, who is a pioneer of the unmanned aircraft system (UAS) technology in the country, in the application of fertilizer on our tea fields using drones. As a leading agricultural enterprise, Kipkebe is uniquely positioned to lead our industry towards the future of sustainable farming due to a rich heritage, commitment to innovation, learning and continuous improvement. This technology will definitely reduce the time span for fertilizer application on the tea fields ensuring that application coincides with good weather conditions, enhance crop yields while reducing attendant costs, as well as adverse impacts on human and the environment."

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About Fahari Aviation and Kenya Airways:

Fahari Aviation is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kenya Airways PLC that will lead the application of emerging aviation technology in the region and continent. Fahari's initial focus will be the application of drone technology in training, operations, and traffic management with a view to growing into maintenance, distribution, design, and production of drones.

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.

About Kipkebe Limited:

Kipkebe Limited is a leading tea grower, manufacturer, and marketer of bulk black tea to customers overseas. About 99% of the produce is exported to United Kingdom, Europe, and Middle East Countries. Our tea farms are located in the highlands west of the Rift Valley, in Kericho and Nyamira areas and tea warehousing facilities in the port town of Mombasa. The tea operations comprise four large estates and two Black CTC tea factories with a combined capacity of between 12,000 and 15,000 metric tonnes of black CTC tea annually. The company is a subsidiary of Sasini PLC, a leading agribusiness, listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange, and also involved in the growing and processing of Coffee, Macadamia nuts, Avocado and packaging of related products for retail.

Please visit www.sasini.co.ke for more information about the Company.

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