



**WELCOME REMARKS BY MR JOHN D. ATTAFUAH, MANAGING DIRECTOR, GACL, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE AFRICAN AIRSHOW, KOTOKA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ACCRA ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017**

**Your Excellency, the President of the Republic of Ghana, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo,  
Hon. Ministers of State,  
Vice President Africa, (IATA),  
Secretary General, ACI, Africa,  
Secretary General, AFCAC,  
Vice President, ICAO Council,  
Service Commanders,  
The Chairpersons of the Boards of Ghana Airports Company Limited and Ghana Civil  
Aviation Authority,  
The Director-General of Ghana Civil Aviation Authority,  
Members of the Diplomatic Corps,  
Heads and Representatives of Government Agencies,  
Stakeholders in the aviation industry,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Members of the Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Today marks a historic milestone in the aviation industry in Ghana – the opening of the African Airshow at Kotoka International Airport, the first of its kind, in the West African sub-region.

On behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of Ghana Airports Company Limited, I wish to warmly welcome you all to this morning's ceremony. For our guests visiting Ghana for the first time, we say “ AKWAABA” meaning “WELCOME” (in one of our local languages) to the beautiful city of Accra. We wish you a pleasant stay in our warm and hospitable country.

I extend a special welcome to His Excellency, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, for taking time to join us for this historic event. We are grateful for your presence Sir.

**Your Excellency, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Ghana Airports Company Limited, in collaboration with Ghana Civil Aviation Authority, and under the auspices of the Ministry of Aviation, is happy and privileged to play host to the first ever African Airshow. The three-day event, promises to create a lot of opportunities for all stakeholders in the aviation industry, which, we intend to take full advantage of, as Ghana positions itself to become the Preferred Aviation Hub and Leader in Airport Business in West Africa.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) in making this day a reality. To the organisers, 4m Events, I say a big thank you, for choosing Ghana for this important event.

We look forward to a very successful Conference & Exhibition, over the three-day period and urge all participants and Exhibitors, to network, strike good business deals and establish long-term relationships, for the ultimate good of the industry.

Finally, **Your Excellency, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen**, let me once again welcome you all to this historic event. I thank you for your kind attention and may the Good Lord bless us all!