



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate Release

Attn: News Editor

JKIA RUNWAY REACHES ADVANCE STAGES OF COMPLETION

Nairobi 3rd December 2015. The Kenya Airports Authority wishes to inform its stakeholders that the on-going rehabilitation of the runway at JKIA is now at very advanced stages of completion.

The rehabilitation of the project, by far the most ambitious upgrades of the run-way by KAA in years, has necessitated daily temporary closures of the runway to allow space for construction works to continue even as flight operations continue.

The scope of the project involves building a completely new layer on the run way in an exercise involving major rehabilitation of existing pavements, the upgrading of the approach lighting systems and installation of an aeronautical ground lighting and guidance signs for the landing strip.

In the first phase. KAA is rehabilitating the runway cargo apron and replacing all block paving with concrete.

In the second phase, KAA is rehabilitating all apron and taxiways, while the final phase will include replacement of edge and approach lights.

Giving a brief on the latest status report, KAA's engineer in charge of restoration projects, Mr. Francis Ngigi, said that work on the Runway which commenced on June 23, 2015, had so far seen 3574 meters of the runaway completed, representing 89 per cent of the scope of the assignment.

While expectations were that work will be completed by end of December this year, recent heavy rains and preparations for the recent visit of the Pope to the country may cause completion date to slip into January.

“The rehabilitation of the cargo apron, which began on July 17, 2015, has so far covered 75 per cent”, Said Mr. Ngigi. He added that the slow pace is attributed to temporary budgetary constraints.

The Runway was closed on April 1 this year. While this has created interruptions to airlines, the situation is expected to improve following a recent agreement by stakeholders to appoint a slot coordinator to harmonize landing times and avoid conflicting timings.

The slot co-coordinator will also enable the airport to optimize deployment of resources, taking advantage of the fact that arrival patterns of aircraft is known well in advance.

Ends

Notes to the editor

About Kenya Airports Authority

The Kenya Airports Authority is an autonomous body established in 1991 through an Act of Parliament and is charged with an umbrella responsibility of providing and managing a coordinated system of airports in Kenya.

KAA manages 4 International airports, 4 domestic airports and several airstrips. The main airports managed by KAA are:-Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), Moi International Airport (MIA), Eldoret International Airport (EIA) and Kisumu International Airport (KIA).

All the airports handled a total of 8 million passengers in the year 2012 with JKIA, the flagship currently handling 6 million passengers per annum. JKIA which directly contributes about 10.9% of GDP is currently undergoing expansion and rehabilitation that will see it handle 7.5 million passengers by end 2015.

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