

**THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL,
2026**

MEMORANDUM

The object of this Bill is to amend the Civil Aviation Authority Act so as to—

- (a) revise the composition of the Board of the Authority;
- (b) enhance civil aviation security;
- (c) provide for the establishment of an Advance Passenger Information System; and
- (d) provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

M.D. KABESHA,
Attorney General

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Act to amend the Civil Aviation Authority Act.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Civil Aviation Authority (Amendment) Act, 2026, and shall be read as one with the Civil Aviation Authority Act, in this Act referred to as the principal Act.

Cap. 445

5 2. Section 2(1) of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new definitions in the appropriate places in alphabetical order:

Amendment of section 2

10 “act of unlawful interference” means an act, or attempted act, committed by a person that threatens the safety of civil aviation and includes—

(a) unlawful seizure of aircraft;

(b) destruction of aircraft in service;

(c) hostage-taking on board aircraft or at an aerodrome;

15 (d) forcible intrusion on board an aircraft, at an airport or on the premises of an aeronautical facility;

N.A.B. 4 2026

- (e) introduction on board an aircraft or at an airport of a weapon, hazardous device or material intended for criminal purposes;
- (f) use of an aircraft in service for the purpose of causing death, grievous harm or serious damage to property 5 or the environment; or
- (g) communication of false information which results in threatening the safety of an aircraft in flight or aircraft on ground, passengers, crew, ground personnel or the general public at an airport or on 10 premises of an aviation facility;

“advance passenger information” means the information—

- (a) captured by an aircraft operator, prior to flight departure or flight arrival, relating to a passenger’s and crew member’s biographic data, details of 15 travel documents and flight details; and
- (b) referred to under paragraph (a), transmitted electronically by the aircraft operator to the Authority and a relevant authority responsible for border control in the country of departure and the 20 country of destination;

“Advance Passenger Information System” means the Advance Passenger Information System established under section 33A;

“civil aviation security” means the safeguarding, through a 25 combination of measures, human

resources and material resources, of civil aviation against an act of unlawful interference;

“facilitation” means the efficient management of necessary control processes with an objective of expediting the 30 clearance of persons or goods and preventing unnecessary operational delays;

Cap. 87

“grievous harm” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Penal Code Act;

“National Civil Aviation Security Committee” means the 35 National Civil Aviation Security Committee constituted in accordance with section 21;

“Immigration Department” has the meaning assigned to the word “Department” in the Immigration and Deportation Act; Cap. 123

5 “passenger name record” means a record created by an aircraft operator or the aircraft operator’s authorised agent relating to each journey booked by, or on behalf of, a passenger;

10 “regulated agent” means an agent, freight forwarder or any other entity which conducts business with an aircraft operator and provides security controls that are accepted or required by the Authority relating to cargo and mail; and

“Zambia Air Force” means the Zambia Air Force established under the Constitution. Cap. 1

3. Section 4(1) of the principal Act is amended by the— Amendment of section 4

15 (a) insertion of the following new paragraph immediately after paragraph (b):

20 (c) ensure compliance with and enforce national civil aviation security policies and the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements where deficiencies are identified by the Authority when carrying out regulatory activities; and

(b) renumbering of paragraphs (c), (d), (e) and (f) as paragraphs (d), (e), (f) and (g), respectively.

4. Section 5 of the principal Act is amended by the— Amendment of section 5

25 (a) deletion of subsection (1) and the substitution therefor of the following:

(1) There is constituted a Board of the Authority which consists of the following part-time members appointed by the Minister:

30 (a) a person with knowledge and experience in matters relating to the regulatory and oversight functions of the Authority, as Chairperson;

35 (b) one representative each of the ministries responsible for—

(i) civil aviation; and

(ii) home affairs;

(c) a representative of the Attorney-General;

(d) a representative of the Zambia Air Force;

(e) one person from the private sector with relevant knowledge and experience in financial matters;

(f) one person from the private sector with relevant knowledge and experience in matters relating to technical civil aviation; and

(g) two persons from the private sector with relevant knowledge and experience in matters relating to this Act.;

(b) insertion of the following new subsection immediately after subsection (1):

(2) The ministries, institutions and organisations referred to under subsection (1)(b) to (d) shall nominate their representatives for appointment by the Minister.;

(c) deletion of subsection (5) and the substitution therefor of the following:

(5) A member may, where the member, except the Chairperson or a person appointed under subsection (1)(e) to (g) is unable to attend any meeting of the Board nominate, in writing, another person from the same ministry, institution or organisation to attend that meeting and that person shall be considered to be a member for purposes of that meeting.;

(d) renumbering of subsections (2), (3), (4) and (5) as subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6), respectively.

Amendment of section 14 **5.** Section 14 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of subsection (2).

Amendment of section 19 **6.** Section 19 of the principal Act is amended

(a) by the deletion of subsection (1) and the substitution therefor of the following:

(1) Subject to this Act, the Authority shall, with the approval of the Minister, for the purposes of civil aviation security, be responsible for the development of national civil aviation security policies, strategies, programmes and the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements in accordance with the Chicago Convention.;

(b) in subsection (2), by the—

(i) insertion of the following new paragraphs immediately after paragraph (a):

- (b) issue an order, a notice, circular or directive for purposes of implementing immediate security measures relating to civil aviation security;
- 5 (c) provide oversight for the implementation of national civil aviation security policies, strategies, programmes and the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements;; and
- 10 (ii) renumbering of paragraphs (b) and (c) as paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively;
- (c) in subsection (3)—
- (i) by the insertion of the following new paragraph immediately after paragraph (b):
- 15 (c) a national air transport facilitation programme;;
- (ii) paragraph (d), by the deletion of the word “screener” and the substitution therefor of the word “security”; and
- 20 (iii) by the renumbering of paragraphs (c) and (d) as paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively; and
- (d) by the deletion of subsection (5) and the substitution therefor of the following:
- (5) The national programmes developed under subsection (3) shall be in writing, and reviewed and updated at least once every year.
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7. The principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section immediately after section 19:
- Insertion of section 19A
- 30 19A. The Authority shall, in the regulation of civil aviation in the Republic, have the following primary purpose:
- Primary purpose of Authority
- (a) ensure the safety of passengers, crew, ground personnel and the general public in matters related to civil aviation; and
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- (b) ensure that civil aviation security remains the highest of priorities when making a decision relating to safety of passengers, crew, ground personnel and the general public.
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Amendment
of section 20

8. Section 20 of the principal Act is amended by the—

(a) deletion of the marginal note and the substitution therefor of the following:

“Security quality control and risk assessment”; and

(b) deletion of paragraph (a) and the substitution therefor of the following:

(a) conduct, at least once a year, a risk assessment to identify civil aviation security needs and threats;

Insertion of
sections
33A, 33B
and 33C

9. The principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new sections immediately after section 33:

Establishment
of Advance
Passenger
Information
System

33A. (1) The Authority shall, in collaboration with the Immigration Department, establish an Advance Passenger Information System for purposes of—

(a) capturing passenger information prior to flight departure from, or flight arrival into, the Republic;

(b) transmitting and analysing the information referred to under paragraph (a) by relevant authorities; and

(c) enhancing law enforcement and security.

(2) The Advance Passenger Information System referred to under subsection (1) shall comply with the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements relating to Passenger name record facilitation and relevant internationally recognised standards relating to advance passenger information.

(3) The Authority shall require aircraft operators operating in the Republic to submit advance passenger information through the Advance Passenger Information System in the manner and form as specified in the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements.

Passenger
Name record

33B. (1) Subject to any other relevant written law, the Authority shall—

(a) in collaboration with the Immigration Department, develop capacity to collect, process, protect and use information relating to a passenger name record for purposes of—

(i) border control and national security;

(ii) risk assessment and analysis; and

- (iii) identifying previously unknown persons who may be subjected to additional checks;
 - (b) align and manage information relating to a passenger name record with the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements;
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(c) identify information relating to a passenger name record for purposes of protecting civil aviation against an act of unlawful interference;
 - (d) set the purposes for which information relating to a passenger name record may be used by relevant

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authorities as the Authority may determine;
 - (e) disclose information relating to a passenger name record, as the Authority may determine, to relevant authorities in the Republic or other ICAO member States when exercising functions related to the processing of

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information relating to a passenger name record including purposes in respect of border security; and
 - (f) ensure that information relating to a passenger name record disclosed under paragraph (e) is protected by a relevant authority or ICAO member State in the same manner

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that the Authority protects that information.
- 33C. The Director-General shall issue an order, a notice, circular, directive, guidelines, procedures or requirements relating to the following: Guidelines
- (a) advance passenger information;
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(b) the Advance Passenger Information System; and
 - (c) passenger name record.
10. Section 63 (1) of the principal Act is amended by the— Amendment of section 63
- (a) deletion of paragraph (a) and the substitution therefor of the following:
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(a) enter—

 - (i) any aircraft, place or premises;
 - (ii) any land, facility or building at any airport in the Republic, land outside an airport occupied for business purposes connected with an airport or aircraft operator, facilities of a regulated agent,

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known consignor, regulated supplier or

known supplier of in flight supplies and airport supplies, for purposes of conducting activities relating to quality control; or

- (iii) an aircraft registered or operating in the Republic for purposes of conducting activities relating to quality control;

(b) deletion of paragraph (e) and the substitution thereof of the following:

(e) require— 10

- (i) a person to furnish the Authority with information or documents, records or other particulars as may be necessary for the proper administration of this Act;
- (ii) an aircraft operator, a person managing an airport, aircraft or occupier of land outside an airport used for business purposes connected with the airport, to provide information relevant to an audit, inspection, test or investigation conducted by the Authority or a relevant authority; 15 20

(c) insertion of the following new paragraphs immediately after paragraph (g):

(h) obtain access to relevant security documentation and records of an operator; 25

(i) interview any person for the purposes of assessing the standards, or implementation, of security procedures;

(j) inspect and test the effectiveness of security measures, procedures and performance of security equipment of an operator; 30

(k) take into an airport, airside or designated security restricted area at an airport and use any equipment, including a radio, camera, an audio and video recording device, and specially authorised, restricted or prohibited items including a replica weapon or simulated explosive device; and 35

(d) renumbering of paragraphs (h) and (i) as paragraphs (l) and (m), respectively.

11. The principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section immediately after section 64: Insertion of section 64A

5 64A. In addition to section 64, an authorised officer conducting an inspection in accordance with section 63, may— Notices of deficiencies and immediate rectification

(a) issue a notice of deficiencies and appropriate recommendations as the authorised officer may determine;

10 (b) enforce corrective actions, including immediate, rapid and effective rectification of any deficiencies and apply enforcement measures; and

(c) enforce the Zambia Civil Aviation Requirements and relevant national programmes referred to under section
15 19(3).
