

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

MISSION

The Mission of the Department of Civil Aviation is to ensure safety of civil air navigation, to develop and operate a national civil air infrastructure and services, upholding in all activities, sound practices and international standards applicable to civil aviation.

OBJECTIVES

1. To develop the aviation industry through safety and economic regulation.
2. To develop and improve safety standards in air transport in accordance with International conventions, standards and recommended practices.
3. To regulate and control operations of airports, air transport, air traffic, flight safety, telecommunications, navigational systems, aviation security, dissemination of flight safety information and aeronautical services.
4. To provide and maintain rural aerodromes/airfields/airports and related infrastructure.

5. 5.The Organisation.

6. The Department of Civil Aviation comprises of the following sections and entities:

7. *Flight Operations Inspectorate*
8. *Airworthiness and Engineering Inspectorate*
9. *Air Traffic Services*
10. *Aeronautical Information Services*
11. *Air Transport: a) Economic Regulation and Statistics*
12. *b) Aviation Law division*
13. *Telecommunications*
14. *Aviation Security*
15. *Aerodromes Engineering**
16. *Fire and Rescue Services*
17. *Moshoeshoe I International Airport***

18. Sections' Responsibilities

19. The role of the **Flight Operations Inspectorate** is the certification of air operations through initial assessments and continued oversight of operators' activities and standards for training flight personnel. It is also responsible for the examination and licensing of flight personnel, enforcement of regulations and making recommendations with respect to the foregoing to the Director of Civil Aviation.
20. The **Airworthiness and Engineering Inspectorate** on the other hand, while working closely with the Flight Operations Section, is responsible for ensuring mechanical soundness and

safety of aircraft, examination and licensing of engineering personnel and engineering organisations. It is also responsible for the enforcement of regulations.

21. **Air Traffic Services** is responsible for providing air traffic control and flight information services to all aircraft operating within the Maseru controlled and adjacent airspace so as to ensure safe operation of aircraft in flight; and the provision of an alerting service to aircraft in need of search and rescue or aircraft in imminent danger.
22. **Aeronautical Information Services** is responsible for ensuring the effective and smooth flow of information necessary for safety, regularity and efficiency of air navigation. This it effects via a global electronic network
23. **Air Transport Section** is responsible for the enforcement of economic regulation. It processes air service permits, prepares traffic and passenger statistics used for forecasting amongst others. It evaluates application for the operation of air services. It prepares points for discussion in bilateral negotiations, and generally looks after facilitation issues. The legal half of the section is responsible for advice pertaining to aviation laws in the day to day operations and interactions of the department with the industry and bilateral partners.
24. **The Telecommunications section** based at Moshoeshoe I International Airport is responsible for the provision of reliable and effective navigational aids and communications facilities at national level in order to contribute to the maintenance of high standards of safety and security in air navigation. It also ensures the continuous operation of the navigational aids and facilities in support of other providers of services in navigation.
25. **The Aviation Security section** is responsible for the security of passengers, airport personnel, aircraft and facilities for use in civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference e.g. hijackings, sabotage, violence against people on board aircraft etc. Security of national installations such as airports etc. however, is the responsibility of the State, a situation not currently obtaining in spite of concerted efforts to engage the national law enforcement and security forces.
26. **Aerodromes Engineering** is responsible for the design and maintenance of all airport infrastructure. Enforcement of regulations pertaining to licensing and or certification of airports, aerodromes and facilities for use in civil aviation. Section currently, since 1996, is unmanned.
27. **Fire and Rescue Services** is currently provided only at Moshoeshoe I International Airport. This service is responsible for the saving of lives and property in the unlikely event of an aircraft accident at the airport or its environs.
28. **Moshoeshoe I International Airport (MIA).**
This facility provides airlines, importers, exporters, concessionaires, government agencies and other related enterprises with the infrastructure and environment that is necessary for ensuring that such businesses and activities are conducted according to internationally recognised standards.

