

Memorandum of Understanding

(MoU)

Between

**Civil Aviation Administration of China
(CAAC)**

And

**Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority
(RCAA)**

On

Airworthiness Certification Cooperation



THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU) is

BETWEEN

The RWANDA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (hereinafter referred to as "RCAA")

and The CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA (hereinafter referred to as "CAAC").

The RCAA and CAAC may be referred to individually as the "Party" or collectively as the "Parties".

WHEREAS:

CAAC and RCAA, are the competent authorities of the respective governments of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Rwanda with regard to civil aviation matters;

The Parties, desiring to apply this MoU in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention on International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) signed at Chicago on 7 December 1944 (Chicago Convention), have concluded as follows:

1. Legal Framework

This MoU is concluded in accordance with:

- a) The Chicago Convention and its Annex 8 on Airworthiness of Aircraft.
- b) The respective national aviation laws and regulations of each Party.

Nothing in this MoU shall override the national laws or regulatory authority of either Party.

2. Objective

This MoU is to facilitate the airworthiness certification cooperation between CAAC and RCAA, and to establish a framework for building mutual confidence in each other's airworthiness certification systems. This includes, but is not limited to, cooperation in design and production approval processes, joint certification cooperation where appropriate, continued airworthiness collaboration, technical data exchange, and regulatory coordination.

This MoU is founded on the principle that both Parties exercise sovereign authority in airworthiness certification and the issuance of Type Certificates and related approvals. While recognizing that differences in technical capacity may presently exist, the Parties commit to progressive cooperation, mutual support, and structured capacity-building initiatives to strengthen each Authority's certification capabilities and foster balanced, long-term reciprocity.



3. Principles of Cooperation

The Parties' cooperation in the acceptance of Type Certificates (TCs) and other approvals shall be based on a system of confidence-building, which may include:

- a) Assessment of each Party's certification system;
- b) Evaluation of regulatory framework, procedures, technical capability, and oversight system;
- c) Confidence in ICAO compliance and effective implementation;

Each Party may conduct, in line with ICAO Annex 8 and associated Documents:

- a) Technical assessments;
- b) Documentation reviews;
- c) Validation visits;
- d) Exchange of certification procedures.

4. Design Approval Validation or Acceptance

Where either Party undertakes relevant design certification activities, the other Party may conduct familiarization and assessment of its certification system and, based on satisfactory results, both Parties will consider listing the related design certification cooperation as Appendix to this MOU.

5. Production Approval Acceptance

Where either Party undertakes relevant production approval activities, the other Party may conduct familiarization and assessment of its certification system and, based on satisfactory results, both Parties will consider listing the related production approval cooperation as Appendix to this MOU.

6. Export Airworthiness Certificate and Authorized Release Certificate Acceptance

Where either Party undertakes relevant airworthiness approval (Export Airworthiness Certificate and Authorized Release Certificate) activities, the other Party may conduct familiarization and assessment of its certification system and, based on satisfactory results, both Parties will consider listing the related airworthiness approval cooperation as Appendix to this MOU.

7. Mutual Support in Continued Airworthiness

CAAC and RCAA will cooperate closely on the continued airworthiness to ensure the safe operation and usage of related products and articles, according to the provision in ICAO

RCAA Initials

CAAC Initials

Annex 8 on the responsibilities of SoD, State of Design for Modification (SoDM), State of Manufacturer (SoM), State of Registry (SoR) and State of Operation (SoO).

The Parties shall:

- a) Exchange Airworthiness Directives (ADs);
- b) Notify each other of unsafe conditions;
- c) Share service difficulty reports;
- d) Coordinate corrective actions;
- e) Notify suspension, transfer, or revocation of approvals.

Both Parties shall fulfill their ICAO responsibilities as State of Design (SoD), State of Manufacturer (SoM), State of Registry (SoR), State of Operator (SoO), as appropriate.

8. Data Sharing and Information Exchange

The Parties agree to establish structured data-sharing mechanisms, including:

- a) Certification data exchange protocols;
- b) Continued airworthiness databases access (as appropriate);
- c) Safety occurrence information relevant to certified products;
- d) Technical publications and policy updates;
- e) Confidentiality protection arrangements.

Proprietary and confidential data shall be protected in accordance with applicable laws of each Party.

9. MoU Contradiction with CAAC or RCAA regulation

In case of contradiction between provision contained in this MoU and domestic regulation of each party, the later will take precedence.

10. Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building

The Parties shall promote:

- a) Reciprocal Government inspector exchange programs;
- b) Joint training activities, especially in knowledge sharing;
- c) Technical workshops;
- d) Policy and regulatory harmonization discussions;

- e) Environmental certification collaboration (ICAO Annex 16);
- f) Digital certification systems development.

Cooperation shall be reciprocal and mutually beneficial.

11. Financial arrangements

Unless otherwise agreed:

- a) Each Party shall bear its own costs;
- b) Travel and subsistence costs for requested technical assistance shall be borne by the requesting Party.

12. Communication and focal points

Each Party shall designate focal points listed in Appendix I. Official correspondence, technical records, engineering drawings, and regulatory notifications conducted under the umbrella of this MoU shall be conducted in English.

13. Confidentiality

Information exchanged under this MoU shall:

- a) Be used solely for regulatory purposes;
- b) Not be disclosed to third parties without prior written consent;
- c) Be protected in accordance with applicable national laws.

14. Implementation

The two Parties shall work in accordance with this MoU from the date of signature by the last signing Party. This MoU may be reviewed or amended by mutual agreement of both Parties and any such review or amendment shall be in writing and signed by both Parties.

Each Party shall notify the other Party in writing of any reorganization, restructuring or any other change in their respective organization which may affect their performance and/or fulfilment of their obligation under this MoU.

15. Dispute Resolution

If a Party believes that the other Party is not complying with any of the terms of this MoU, that Party shall inform the other Party of its concerns and seek appropriate redress.

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation, application or implementation of the provisions of this MoU shall be settled amicably and exclusively



through direct, professional consultation and diplomatic negotiations through consultation or negotiations between the Parties.

16. Entry into Force, Amendments and Duration

This MoU shall enter into force upon signature by both Parties and remain in force until terminated.

Either Party may terminate this MoU with three (3) months' written notice.

This MoU may be amended in writing by mutual, written consent of both Parties.

The initial versions of Appendices I and II attached to this MoU shall enter into effect upon signature of the MoU. Either Party may propose the review or amendment of an Appendix. Any proposed amendment shall be subject to consultation and mutual agreement between the Parties and may be formalized through an exchange of official letters.

SIGNED in Kigali on the 12th October 2026 in duplicate in the English language.

Signed for and on behalf of:
Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority

Civil Aviation Administration of China



Silas Udahemuka
Director General
Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority



Xu Feng
Director General
Aircraft Airworthiness Certification Department

APPENDIX I

What follows are the contact addresses between the CAAC and RCAA.

People's Republic of China

Aircraft Airworthiness Certification Department
Civil Aviation Administration of China
155 Dongsu West Street, Beijing 100710
China
Phone: 86-10-64091321
Fax : 86-10-64033087
E-mail : jy_zhao@caac.gov.cn

The Republic of Rwanda

Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority
KN 5 Road, Kigali International Airport
Rwanda
Phone: +250 724 123 005
Email: amusafiri@caa.gov.rw
info@caa.gov.rw

RCAA Initials



CAAC Initials



APPENDIX II

I. Design approval cooperations

RCAA may accept CAAC design approvals as follows:

- a) Type Certificates (TCs) and amended TCs of which CAAC is the State of Design (SoD) of the products (aircraft, engine or propeller).
- b) Supplemental Type Certificates (STCs) and Modification Design Approvals (MDAs) of which CAAC is the SoD or State of Design of Modification (SoDM) of the products.

Note: CAAC approves major modification via STC and minor modification via MDA.

- c) Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA) for modification and replacement part approved by CAAC.
- d) CAAC Technical Standard Order Authorization (CTSOA) for article including aviation fuel.
- e) Aviation Chemical Products Design and Production Approval for aviation chemical products.

The Acceptance process of the Type Certificate is as follows:

- a) CAAC would transfer Type Certificate Acceptance (TCA) application combined with CAAC recommendation letter to RCAA for the Chinese TC holder applicants who would like to apply the RCAA acceptance. The application package should be prepared according to RCAA's requirements including all relevant product documents necessary for issuance of acceptance letter, such as Aircraft Flight Manual and Instructions for Continued Airworthiness (ICAs), etc.
- b) RCAA will review the application package and inform CAAC of any additional requirements for issuance of acceptance letter.
- c) CAAC would share the product certification process with RCAA and assist the applicant to meet and incorporate the requirements in the configuration to be delivered to Rwanda.
- d) RCAA will accept CAAC's TC through issuing an acceptance letter.
- e) CAAC would provide continued airworthiness support to RCAA after products enter service, and notify RCAA of transfer, suspension or revocation of a CAAC TC for which the RCAA has issued an acceptance letter.
- f) RCAA may accept the design changes made by the acceptance letter holder which are approved in the frame of CAAC certification system.

RCAA Initials

CAAC Initials

The other approvals mentioned above which is issued by CAAC, including STC, MDA, PMA, CTSOA and Aviation Chemical Products Design and Production Approval, will be accepted by RCAA directly without application or issuance process.

2. Production approval cooperations

RCAA recognizes CAAC's production approval and surveillance system based on the validation or acceptance of related design approval issued by RCAA, subject to system confidence.

CAAC may invite RCAA to conduct familiarization visits to manufacturers and participate in production certification and surveillance activities.

3. Airworthiness approval cooperations

RCAA may accept Export Airworthiness Certificates issued by CAAC to aircraft provided the aircraft type has been accepted by RCAA.

- a) For the aircraft of which CAAC is the SoD and SoM, RCAA would accept Export Airworthiness Certificates issued by CAAC;
- b) For the aircraft of which CAAC is the SoM only, RCAA would accept Export Airworthiness Certificates issued by CAAC provided RCAA has accepted the production approval according to paragraph 5 of this MoU.

RCAA would accept Authorized Release Certificate issued by CAAC to engine, propeller or article, provided the design has been accepted by RCAA.

RCAA and CAAC may accept the Export Airworthiness Certificates issued by the each other for the used aircraft with a third party as SoD, provided the aircraft type has been accepted or validated and a satisfactory airworthiness inspection has been made by the importing party (RCAA or CAAC).

