# **PRESS RELEASE**













Best Airline in Africa for 6 Years in a Row

Best Business and Economy Class Airline in Africa for 5 Years in a Row

Best Business Class Onboard Catering in Africa for 2 Years in a Row

Cleanest Airline in Africa

### **Ethiopian Recognizes Travel Agencies**

Renewed partnership to travel industry

#### Addis Ababa, August 6, 2023

Ethiopian Airlines Group, the fastest-growing global airline brand and the continent's largest airline brand, has recognized travel agencies in an event held at Skylight Hotel on August 6, 2023. Ethiopian has rewarded the top three travel agencies in eight different categories based on their performance from January to December 2022. Ethiopian awarded the travel agencies in eight categories, as Ethiopian Overall Top Performer, Ethiopian Top Market Share Performer, Newly Emerging Travel Agencies, Industry Pioneers, Ethiopian top Tour package seller, Ethiopian best booking quality Performer, Ethiopian Top Corporate seller, and Ethiopian best online check-in Contributor.

Recognizing the pivotal role of travel agencies in easing travel experiences to customers, Ethiopian Airlines Group Chief Executive Officer Mr. Mesfin Tasew said, "Ethiopian Airlines attaches great importance to travel agencies and the significant role they play in the development of travel, tourism and socio-economic activities by easing travel arrangements. I would like to take this occasion to express my gratitude and appreciation to the travel agency community for the remarkable contribution they make in the growth of travel and tourism in Ethiopia. Ever since launching its operations, Ethiopian has been working closely with travel agencies. As a veteran commercial airline with successful services of more than seven decades, Ethiopian has built deep-rooted, historical business partnerships that it will continue to nurture."

In an era of technology where customers demand for the most convenient services, the harmonization between the airline and the travel agencies in offering seamless customer services will have multiple benefits to the parties on one hand and to the proliferation of the country's travel and tourism industry on the other.

Ethiopian is cognizant of the great contribution of travel agencies to the airline's performance and customer handling experiences. There are indeed a number of fertile

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grounds for the travel agencies to widen their horizon and exploit so that they will be competitive in the international arena.

Among others, working with Africa's biggest airline, proximity to Africa's major hub-Bole International Airport with an annual total passenger carrying capacity of close to 20 millions, availability of skilled workforce that can meet industry standards with training from Ethiopian Aviation University, among others are some of the enticing opportunities available for the travel agencies to take advantage of.

Travel is key to understand life more. With its vast global destinations, Ethiopian Airlines is always committed to ensure that people enjoy their travel experiences and eye for more. The national flag bearer is also dedicated to work in harmony with all industry stakeholders including with travel agents and their association. To this end, it is of the travel agencies to strive and ensure that customers' trips go as smoothly as possible in partnership with flight operators.

#### **About Ethiopian**

Ethiopian Airlines Group (Ethiopian) is the fastest-growing airlines brand globally and the continent's largest airline brand. In its seventy-seven years of successful operations, Ethiopian, the fastest growing airline, has become one of the continent's leading carriers, unrivalled in efficiency and operational success. In addition to its main hub in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, it is also pursuing its multi-hub strategy through a hub in Lomé, Togo with ASKY, in Lilongwe, Malawi with Malawi Airlines and in Lusaka, Zambia with Zambia Airways. Ethiopian commands the lion's share of the African passenger and cargo network operating the youngest and most modern fleet to more than 150 domestic and international passenger and cargo destinations across five continents. Ethiopian's fleet category consists of ultra-modern and environmentally friendly aircraft such as Boeing 737s, 777s, 787s, Airbus A350-900 and Bombardier Dash 8-400 double cabin with an average fleet age of seven years. In fact, Ethiopian is the first airline in Africa to own and operate most of these aircraft.

Having achieved its strategic plan (Vision 2025) ahead of time, Ethiopian is currently implementing a 15-year strategic plan called Vision 2035 that will see it become one of the top 20 most competitive and leading aviation groups in the world by providing safe, secured, market driven and customer focused Passenger and Cargo Transport and Logistics, Aviation Training, Airport Management and Ground Services, MRO and Aerospace Manufacturing and Travel and

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Tourism Services. As a multi-award-winning airline, Ethiopian has been the champion in various coveted awards including Skytrax's 'Best Airline in Africa Award' for six consecutive years among others. The airline has been a Star Alliance member since 2011 and has been registering more than threefold growth in the past 10 years.

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