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**For Immediate Release**

### **ATNS Champions Global Aviation Safety at IFATSEA 53rd General Assembly**

Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS), in partnership with the South African Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel Association (SAATSEPA), proudly co-hosted the 53rd General Assembly of the International Federation of Air Traffic Safety Electronics Associations (IFATSEA). The five-day gathering brought together global leaders and experts to advance dialogue on air traffic safety, engineering excellence, and the evolving role of professionals in safeguarding the aviation value chain.

The Assembly concluded with commendations presented by the Federation's leadership to organisations and individuals for their outstanding contributions. ATNS was honoured (see attached image) for its pivotal role as main sponsor and co-host, with recognition for its generous support, meticulous planning, and warm hospitality that ensured the success of this year's event. The SAATSEPA was celebrated for its exemplary leadership and dedication to advancing the profession. At the same time, international partners from Argentina (ATSEPSA), the Czech Republic (CZATSEA), and the United States (PAS) were acknowledged for hosting previous Assemblies. Individual awards were also presented to Patrick Delaney of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and Engineer Ishaya Dung of Nigeria for their exceptional contributions to global aviation forums.

IFATSEA Africa Region Director, Sam Mahlangu, stated that the overarching theme of the Assembly centred on addressing cyber threats to communication, navigation, and surveillance systems through collaboration, training, systems thinking, and data-driven decision-making. "Expert guidance from the ICAO enriched discussions on global initiatives, spectrum management, and emerging challenges such as signal jamming and spoofing."

Mahlangu further stated that the highlights of the Assembly included a women-led panel on strengthening safety standards against cyberattacks, proposals for comprehensive technical standards to enhance global aviation safety, and commitments to foster a culture of trust and operational excellence.

According to the IFATSEA President, Ing. Frank Kofi Apeageyi, the strategic outcomes of the Assembly included signing a memorandum of understanding with the International Federation of Aeronautical Information Management Associations (IFAIMA), aligning with ICAO goals, and forming a multidisciplinary team to lead cybersecurity initiatives.



“These resolutions reaffirmed the critical role of ATSEPs in protecting the flying public and shaping the future of aviation safety,” concluded Ing Apeageyi.

ATNS remains steadfast in its commitment to collaboration, innovation, and resilience, ensuring that the skies remain safe for generations to come.

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**Issued by Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS) SOC Limited**

**Press Contact:** Mphilo K Dlamini, ATNS Head of Corporate Affairs and Communications

**Mobile:** 076 639 5800

**Email:** [mphilod@atns.co.za](mailto:mphilod@atns.co.za)