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“SADC Upper Airspace Management Center for a seamless regional harmonization of air traffic in the Upper Airspace (FL245 and above) in the interest of Aviation Safety”

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SADC Upper Airspace Management Center for a seamless regional harmonization of air traffic in the Upper Airspace (FL245 and above) in the interest of Aviation Safety.

- **Control of Lesotho's Air Space:**
- DCA – Lesotho and ATNS hold a Bilateral Agreement for management of Lesotho's Upper Airspace (FL145 and above) by ATNS.
- Lower Airspace (FL145 and below) is under direct control by DCA - Lesotho
- **Challenges:**
- Unavailability of appropriate Infrastructure for DCA Lesotho to control its Upper Airspace due to Financial and Geographical Constraints .
 - No Surveillance Equipment,
 - No HF equipment.
 - Topography of country (mountainous terrain) limits a countrywide VHF coverage.
- DCA - Lesotho also lacks capacity (manpower) to establish own Area Control Center.
 - Air traffic staff training limited to Approach Control only (No Area Control)

- Under staffing of ATC office
- DCA - Lesotho currently receives no revenue from Air traffic Overflights (no collection of Air Navigation Fees/Charges) .
- **Benefits:**
- Increased Safety of Overflights in Lesotho's Upper Airspace
 - No occurrence of Incidents and Accidents as a result of ATNS Control.
- Bilateral Agreement terms to be reviewed to enable collection of Air Navigation Charges for Overflights.
- Collected revenue will be utilized to:
 - Develop and sustain new Infrastructure.
 - Stimulate economical growth in Lesotho's aviation sector
- Bilateral Agreement allows Airline operators to select optimum flight trajectories to save Fuel and Time.

- **Conclusions:**
 - State of Lesotho fully supports the initiative to establish a SADC Upper Airspace Control Center.
 - In the process to establish a SADC Upper Airspace Control Center important lessons can be drawn from the SADC VSAT Model as it was implemented successfully.
 - This initiative will allow SADC member states to share costs required to support activities of the SADC Upper Airspace Control Center.
 - Collaboration and coordination by member states will enhance regional aviation safety level.
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- Any Questions?