



Adefunke ADEYEMI

Regional director Advocacy and strategic relations, IATA Africa

Adefunke was recently honoured as one of the 200 globally Most Influential People of African Descent (MIPAD) in affiliation with the United Nations Decade for People of African Descent.

With a career spanning over 20 years, Adefunke is a catalyst for change, a transformative leader and influencer. She is a lawyer, advocate and global aviation expert, focused on bringing value, policy reform, best practices and international standards to the aviation sector, businesses and government.

In her current role as Regional Director, Advocacy & Strategic Relations for Africa at IATA, Adefunke advocates for the sustainability and growth of the aviation industry across the region, highlighting its value to economies and societies as a strategic enabler and catalyst for development, growth and a force for social good.

Adefunke is the IATA focal point for the implementation of the Single African Air Transport Market and a designated Champion of the African Continental Free Trade Area, two strategic policy initiatives of the African Union designed to promote intra-African connectivity and trade to secure Africa's integration and prosperity.

She has been involved in many environmental and sustainability initiatives regionally and globally, including representing the industry at UNFCCC negotiations, contributing to the development and adoption of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation, and initiating a unique linkage and collaboration between Aviation and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

She is passionate about Leadership, Innovation, Diversity, Inclusion and Balance. She holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from the prestigious University of Cambridge, United Kingdom and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Nanyang Business School, Singapore in collaboration with Wharton Business School, Philadelphia and Berkeley Hass Business School, California. Adefunke is a visionary and strategic thinker, combining excellent advocacy and communication skills with a unique ability to motivate and inspire.