



**RWANDA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY  
P.O. BOX 122, KIGALI-RWANDA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**AN APPEAL TO LEGALLY REGISTER DRONES / UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (UAS)**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Rwanda Civil Aviation Regulations (RCARs), anyone who owns an unmanned aircraft (UAS), regardless of the size, shall register it with Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority (RCAA) effective April 7, 2016.

UAS operated by the current owner before April 7, 2016 must be registered no later than 1 May 2016. For all others, registration is required prior to the first outdoor flight. If a person owns more than one UAS, each aircraft must be registered and allocated a registration number.

After completing registration, owners will receive a personal registration number and certificate. Any method may be used to mark the UAS, as long as the number is legible. Registrants may put the number in the battery compartment if it is easily accessible and keep the certificate on hand for inspection as proof of registration.

A registration requirement promotes a culture of accountability and responsibility. The latter will help protect and continue encouraging innovation, which would be in danger of being undermined by unlawful practices. UAS registration also helps RCAA ensure safety for UAS in air, the public on the ground and manned aircraft. UAS pose new security and privacy challenges and must be traceable in the event of an incident.

In addition, registration establishes a shared understanding that operating UAS for business or pleasure comes with certain responsibilities and expectations and that the public will be watching for and reporting bad actors, just as they do today for other safety and security-related concerns. During the registration process, RCAA will educate UAS owners on safe operations.

Failure to register a UAS may result in application of legal measures which shall include prosecution under existing laws such as the Penal Code and or administrative fines of up to twenty million (20,000,000) Rwandan francs.

Application form (*Form RCAA-Form-UAS001*) for registration and operation of UAS can be obtained from RCAA office or downloaded from its website [www.caa.gov.rw](http://www.caa.gov.rw). The website also contains important safety and operating guidance as well as other facts and information. If help is needed with registration, email [airworthiness@caa.gov.rw](mailto:airworthiness@caa.gov.rw) or [info@caa.gov.rw](mailto:info@caa.gov.rw).

RCARs requires a registration fee of FWR110, 000.00 that will be collected at the time of registration. To encourage speedy compliance, the RCAA is making the process free for the first 14 days.

This notice does not apply to UAS owned by the Government of Rwanda or children's toy aircraft.

Done at Kigali, on 10 MARCH 2016

  
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Silas UDAHEMUKA  
Director General

