



International Civil Aviation Organization

**THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE
ASIA/PACIFIC AIR NAVIGATION PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APANPIRG/13)
Bangkok, Thailand, 9 to 13 September 2002**

Agenda Item : 2.4 Other Air Navigation Matters

AERODROME CERTIFICATION AND EXPANSION OF IUSOAP TO ANNEX 14

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This working paper presents information on Amendment 4 to Annex 14 Volume I to include a new section on the need for Certification of Aerodromes.

The expansion of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (IUSOAP) to Annex 14 Vol. I Aerodromes is briefly described.

Action by APANPIRG is proposed at paragraph 5.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 ICAO Assembly Resolution A29-13 on *Improvement of Safety Oversight* recognized that many Contracting States may not have the regulatory framework or financial and technical resources to carry out the (implementation of the) minimum requirements of the Convention on International Civil Aviation and its Annexes. It also recognized that the effective implementation of the safety Standards required effective oversight by the Contracting States.

1.2 On 7 June 1995, the ICAO Council approved the ICAO safety oversight programme. The programme was subsequently endorsed by the 31st Session of the Assembly and became operational in March 1996.

1.3 The world-wide Directors General of Civil Aviation Conference on a Global Strategy for Safety Oversight, Montreal, 10 to 12 November 1997, recommended the introduction of a regular, mandatory audits of all States to be carried out by ICAO and that the proposed expansion of the programme beyond the three areas as contained in Annexes 1, 6 and 8.

1.4 The IUSOAP, as approved by the council was endorsed by the 32nd Session of the Assembly and is aimed at ensuring the effective implementation by States of the safety-related Standards and Recommended Practices and associated procedures concerning personnel licensing and training, flight operations and airworthiness as contained in Annexes 1, 6 and 8, respectively.

1.5 The 33rd Session of the Assembly agreed to expand the IUSOAP for air traffic services (Annex 11), to aviation accident and incident investigation (Annex 13) and to Aerodromes (Annex 14). Audits in field of aerodromes are scheduled to commence in 2004.

2. ANNEX 14, VOLUME I PROVISIONS

2.1 Prior to Amendment 4 there was no requirement in Annex 14 or any other ICAO documents for aerodromes to be certified. This is due to the fact that, so far, most international airports were owned and operated by governments or their agencies and, thus, compliance with the applicable standards and regulations in force to ensure minimum levels of safety was not deemed to be a problem. However, with the continuing growth of the aviation industry and increasing trend in privatization of airports, the need to ensure safety by the provision of adequate facilities and services at airports has gained greater emphasis. Additionally, as identified by the DGCA/97 Conference, many States may not have the requisite legislation related to oversight of aviation that would empower the State Civil Aviation administrations to carry out their role as regulators.

2.2 Annex 14, Volume I specifications have generally formed the basis not only for planning and design of aerodromes, but also for assessing the adequacy of an aerodrome for handling anticipated operations, as well as for certification of some new airports. It is noted that Annex 14 has been adopted by States in whole or in part as their national regulations or adapted to satisfy national needs. Some States which have their own aviation legislation have also developed aerodrome certification procedures. However, there are many States which do not have such legislation and, consequently, do not have a certification procedure in place. In view of the increased emphasis on global aviation safety, the development of suitable provisions on licensing/certification of aerodromes was undertaken by the Secretariat to assist States in fulfilling their regulatory obligations.

3. AMENDMENT 4 TO ANNEX 14, VOLUME I

3.1 Amendment 4 includes a new section §1.3 that introduces the requirement for aerodromes to be certified. As of 01 November 2001, aerodromes open to public use should be certified under appropriate regulatory framework (Recommend Practice). Aerodromes used for international operations shall be certified under appropriate regulatory framework as from 27 November 2003 (Standard). Amendment 4 also includes provisions on the establishment of a safety management system at aerodromes. A Recommended Practice on establishing a safety management system has become applicable on 1 November 2001. The new Standard would require a safety management system to be in operations in certified aerodromes from 24 November 2005. This requirement would facilitate the endeavour by States to ensure that the aerodrome operator (be it a government-owned aerodrome or a corporatized or privatized entity) is obliged to provide adequate, safe facilities and services.

4. MANUAL ON CERTIFICATION OF AERODROMES

4.1 A manual on certification of aerodromes has been developed by the Secretariat based on input from some States who have such practices and is intended to facilitate States in establishing similar regulatory procedures. It contains details of an aerodrome certification regulatory system, model regulations needed for certifying an aerodrome, and the procedures that may be used by State regulatory authority.

4.2 The section of the manual dealing with the aerodrome regulatory system discusses the need for certifying an aerodrome, the need for basic aviation legislation to be available to empower the appropriate regulatory body to carry out the regulatory functions, and it identifies the areas for regulations. The manual also contains model regulations to assist States in developing their own regulations if such regulations are not already in place. It also covers the period of validity of the certificate, the obligations of an aerodrome operator, the preparation and maintenance of an aerodrome (operations) manual, establishment of a safety management system and safety and security aspects of authorizing personnel to access the air side areas, etc.

4.3 Procedures of certification of aerodromes have also been included in the manual. They cover the processing of applications, the minimum staff requirements, and assessment of the capability of the aerodrome operator to ensure safety of operations, including control of movement of vehicles and personnel, management of wild life hazards at an aerodrome, handling of hazardous material, etc. A brief organizational structure for such a regulatory body is also shown for adoption as appropriate by a State. Similarly, sample forms for use by a State are also included.

5. ACTION BY THE MEETING

1.1 The Meeting is invited to

- i) note the contents of this paper and
- ii) note the expansion of the IUSOAP to include aerodromes with the commencement of the audit in 2004
- iii) adopt the following Draft Conclusion

DRAFT CONCLUSION 13/XX : AIRPORT CERTIFICATION

That, States :

- i) are urged to take appropriate steps to establish the necessary legislation and regulatory procedures needed for certification of aerodromes.
- ii) where safety management system in aerodromes has been introduced, to share its experience and provide assistance through hosting of conferences, seminars and workshops.
