



Issue 1

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ICAO Council Recommends the Establishment of Regional Aviation Safety Groups (RASGs), 25 May 2010

On Tuesday, 25 May 2010, on a recommendation by the ANC, the Council agreed to the establishment of RASGs. These Council-established RASGs, in a similar way as the existing Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs), would report to the Commission on a regular basis and to the Council as deemed necessary, thus providing interregional harmonization related to flight safety issues and a means to monitor implementation of GASP and its associated GASR. The proposed RASGs will serve as a regional cooperative forum integrating global, regional, subregional, national and industry efforts in continuing to enhance aviation safety worldwide. While RASGs will initially deal with safety issues directly related to flight operations, planning should be initiated as soon as circumstances permit to adopt a systems approach so that RASGs address safety issues from an integrated perspective that includes flight operations and ATM safety.

Third RASG-PA/03 Meeting to be held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 25-29 October, 2010

Last year's RASG-PA Meeting was attended by 72 delegates from 16 States/Territories of the NAM/CAR/SAM Regions, 7 International Organizations, 5 airlines, 1 airport and 2 aircraft manufacturers attended the Meeting. The RASG-PA is established to be the focal point to ensure harmonization and coordination of safety efforts aimed at reducing aviation risks in the North American, Central American, Caribbean (NACC), and South American (SAM) Regions and to promote the implementation of resulting safety initiatives by all stakeholders. Current projects include developing safety enhancements to address the top three aviation safety risks in the Pan-American region, developing a legislative framework to protect aviation safety information and a project to share flight data information to enhance aviation safety. The mitigation strategies developed from these efforts will be presented to RASG-PA members during RASG-PA/03. In addition to these on-going projects, RASG-PA has developed an annual safety report to assist RASG-PA members in making decisions concerning safety enhancement initiatives. This report will also be used as a basis for future work programmes of the RASG-PA. In the future, with increased rates of reporting, the data gathered and analyzed will help create a more proactive and predictive approach towards risk analysis.

For more information please visit <http://www.mexico.icao.int/RASGPA.html>

Sixth Meeting of the RASG-PA Executive Steering Committee (ESC), 17-19 August 2010, Seattle, WA USA

The sixth meeting of the RASG-PA ESC was held in Seattle WA, 17-19 August 2010. The RASG-PA ESC provides guidance and ensures that safety initiatives and other RASG-PA efforts are discharged in a timely and efficient manner. Among the many safety related initiatives on the agenda, the ESC also finalized plans for the upcoming third meeting of the RASG-PA general membership to be held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 25-29 October 2010. Additionally, the ESC reviewed and approved eight mitigation strategies that were developed by the Regional Aviation Safety Team (RAST), to address the three major risk areas in the Pan America region. RAST is one of several working groups of RASG-PA. The mitigation strategies that were developed will be presented during RASG-PA/03. The ESC also reviewed a draft of the RASG-PA Annual Safety Report and made several recommendations to enhance the report with data specific to the Pan America Region. The objective of the annual safety report is to gather safety information from different sources and determine the main aviation safety risks in the Pan American Region. The data gathered from the report will be used to develop and deploy mitigation actions to enhance aviation safety in a coordinated manner. Boeing, a member of RASG-PA, hosted the ESC meeting.

The REGIONAL AVIATION SAFETY GROUP - PAN AMERICA (RASG-PA) was established in November 2008 to be the focal point to ensure harmonization and coordination of safety efforts aimed at reducing aviation risks in the North American, Central American, Caribbean (NAM/CAR), and South American (SAM) Regions and to promote the implementation of resulting safety initiatives by all stakeholders. This will be achieved through the involvement of all stakeholders including ICAO, States, International Organizations and the industry.
