

AFI Regional Runway Safety Seminar (RRSS)

10 to 12 April 2013 Agadir, Morocco

Executive Summary

I. RRSS Event Overview

- a. ICAO conducted a Regional Runway Safety Seminar from 10 to 12 April 2013 at Agadir, Morocco, in partnership with ACI and with support from ONDA
- b. The Seminar was scheduled back-to-back with the 49th ACI Africa Board and Working Group Meetings.
- c. This collaborative approach has facilitated sponsorship, availability of interpretation services and a high number of participants of African airports in the Regional seminar.
- d. 241 participants from 30 African States and 8 International/Regional Organizations (ACI, IATA, IFALPA, CANSO, ICCAIA, ICAO, ACAC and ASECNA) attended the Regional Runway Safety Seminar for Africa in Agadir. The seminar was also attended by a representative from the FAA. Attached is the list of Participants. Of which, 98 attended and actively engaged in the Workshop exercises with 72 going on the visit to Agadir Airport.

II. Outcomes

- a. List of known RSTs in the region include the Casablanca RST and Agadir RST which were established in 2010, as well as RSTs established in South Africa. The presentations given by these RSTs indicate examples of successes in implementing mitigating measures to address hazards as well as mitigations that are still in progress.
- b. What potential barriers for the success of RSTs in the Region were mentioned?

Barriers mentioned include lack of skills related to collaborative problem solving and team work across disciplines as well as lack of commitment on the part of the State. Also identified was a lack of appreciation of the benefits of a multidisciplinary team.

- c. What mitigation strategies were discussed to address the barriers mentioned above?

Mitigation strategies discussed included identifying and supporting appropriate training to give the RST Chairman and team members the skills needed to succeed in working together and convincing stakeholders to implement mitigation strategies. The workshop exercise on the last day served to highlight the need to work across disciplines. On one team of all airports experts no one knew the meaning of “stall”. The commitment made by the African Ministers at the Abuja conference to reduce Runway Safety-related

Accidents by 50% by 2015 needs to trickle down through the RASG to gain the commitment to this initiative at all levels.

- d. Was there anything identified that ICAO and the Runway Safety Partners can do to support RSTs? Mention any specific commitments made by Partners.
 - 1. ACI committed to support by providing free training related to SMS, ICAO Annex 14 and in particular aerodrome signs and marking as well as facilitating knowledge sharing and information. In addition, ACI promoted the idea of friendly audits as a first step to Aerodrome Certification to Annex 14 Standards.
 - 2. CANSO committed to facilitate communication with ATC to obtain their commitment and to provide guidance material
 - 3. ICAO committed to fast track an RST guideline 5-pager document to support establishment of RSTs at African international airports
 - 4. The representative from the Addis Ababa airport committed to initiate an RST within 2 weeks of the conference (as they are currently undergoing a large expansion project, establishing an RST was considered urgent).
 - 5. ICAO to follow-up on effective implementation of RSTs in the Region.
- e. Any high level feedback from the speakers/moderator for the improvement of future RRSSs?

We need to improve the participation to include various relevant disciplines; this requires a renewed commitment from ICAO's Runway Safety Partners to support all RRSSs not only the events they commit to co-host.

III. Any other important information that is worth mentioning

During the conference the idea of publishing an article on RRSSs and in particular the Agadir RRSS in the ICAO Journal was raised. There was a lot of support for this idea to help generate awareness of the value of RSTs and value of this mechanism in reaching the goal set by the African Ministers.