



**Outcomes of the AFI Aviation Week,  
Abuja (Nigeria), 16 – 20 May 2022**

# **Ninth Meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation of the Africa-Indian Ocean**

## **Outcomes of the DGCA/9 Meeting**

### **Agenda item 1: Update on outcome of the ICAO 2021 High-level conference on COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 air traffic recovery**

- States to increase the uptake of the HLCC Ministerial Declaration to restore and revitalize aviation sector
- States are called for more commitments to open borders through updated risk management and vaccination approaches to support the recovery of air transport

### **Agenda Item 2: Performance status - ICAO report (All ICAO Strategic Objectives)**

- States are commended for the tremendous efforts made to improve aviation performance in the region despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and encouraged to improve their effective implementation of safety and security oversight as well as the the SSP and ASBU elements. States are therefore encouraged to request for support from the ICAO Regional Offices, RSOOs, RAIO, and other Partners.
- States to increase their efforts in the capacity building activities with the support of ICAO-GAT and other approved Training Organizations.
- States to improve and/or establish data collection and processing systems to facilitate the exchange and sharing of information, which enables data-driven decision-making processes.
- States are encouraged to release their Experts to support the implementation activities in other States in coordination with ICAO Regional Offices.
- Cooperation between ICAO Regional Offices, AFCAC, RSOOs, RECs and other international/regional organizations, industry and partners, should be strengthen in order to optimize the impact of assistance activities and initiatives in the AFI Region.
- The meeting called for African States to liberalize their air transport market in accordance with the Yamoussoukro Decision, and join the SAATM, if not yet done so

- States that are yet to develop State Action Plans and volunteer to participate in the CORSIA to consider doing so;
- States to promote policies for the development and deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs).

### **Agenda item 3: Update on APIRG/RASG AFI meetings and priorities**

- With regard to the AFI Region delineation, a consultation is required between all the concerned States and stakeholders.
- States that have not yet done so, are urged to focal points in PIRGs related areas to support the required coordination for the implementation of the Air navigation plan.

### **Agenda item 4: Champion States activities' status, European Union collaboration with Africa on Aviation, Enhancing Aviation Development, Innovation and Sustainability in the African Region**

- It was agreed to convene a meeting to evaluate the relevance of the Champion States mechanism and improve its functioning if required.
- States should take advantage of the innovation to support the development of the aviation industry; and consider the civil society in the decision making process

# **DECISION AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AFI PLAN SC/25**

## **Discussion Paper 01 - Follow up actions on the Decisions and Recommendations of the twenty-fourth meeting of the AFI Plan Steering Committee and the Status of Implementation of the 2021 AFI Plan Work Programme**

The meeting took note of the following specific issues:

- The development of a Strategic Plan for supporting and strengthening Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs) in Africa;
- The virtual and online support to States through ROST despite the COVID-19 situation and the resumption of onsite support;
- The support provided by partners and stakeholders towards attainment of some of the AFI Plan targets;
- The virtual and online training provided to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) including Increased Access to Training (IaT) for States with poor internet access, in collaboration with GAT;
- The AFI plan projects as updated based on the Decisions of the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AFI SC (AFI Plan SC/24);
- The continuous positive high-level support and engagement being made by the ICAO Secretary General and the President of the ICAO Council to enhance aviation safety in the region;
- The specific request made for assistance from some States (Burundi and Guinea) ;
- The offer by Rwanda to support the development of dashboard to monitor the Abuja safety targets; and
- The support and guidance provided for the Association of African Aviation Training Organizations (AATO) in its organizational sustainability effort.

### **Decisions/Recommendations**

- The SC requested that the Regional Office Safety Team (ROST) and AFI-CIS missions be prioritised in accordance with the needs of States to assist States implementation on their USOAP CMA Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) and specifically address the remaining SSC; and improve EIs in low performing States;

- Based on the results of the Capacity building of Aviation Professionals in the AFI Region study and the needs analysis, AFI Plan to continue provision of targeted Safety-related trainings, workshops and seminars including virtually to enhance the implementation capacity of States;
- The AFI Plan Secretariat to continue closely work with Partners to harmonize implementation plans in the region ;
- The ICAO Council President and the ICAO Secretary General to continue to attend AFI meetings and to engage, at the highest level, those States that are not cooperating and/or sufficiently advancing in addressing their aviation safety deficiencies;
- AFCAC to coordinate with the RSOOs to improve access to aviation data from States; and liaise with Rwanda for the development of a digital dashboard to support continuous monitoring of the level of implementation of the Abuja Safety Targets and Air Navigation indicators;
- In collaboration with AUC, AFCAC and other partners, the AFI Plan Secretariat to continue to follow up on the Aviation Infrastructure for Africa Gap analysis conducted in 2019 as a key priority; and
- The AFI Plan Secretariat and AFCAC to coordinate on matters related to the capacity building of aviation professionals and the AFCAC - Singapore MOU signed on 16 May 2022, in order to avoid duplication of efforts;

### **Discussion Paper 02-A - Review and approval of the revised AFI Plan Projects**

The meeting took note of:

- The objective, scope and required budget of the updated Aerodrome Certification, State Safety Programme (SSP), Aeronautical information Management (AIM), Air Navigation Service (ANSP) Providers Peer Review, Fundamental safety Oversight (FSO) projects.

### **Decisions/Recommendations**

The Steering Committee:

- Approved the projects presented and its budget for 2022. Implementation activities of the project should be presented for each year including the required budget subject to availability of funds; and
- Called on States, international and regional organizations, financing institutions; and industry to support the AFI Plan projects.

## **Discussion Paper 02 B - The Continuation of AFI Plan**

The meeting took note of:

- The significant contribution made by the AFI Plan programme activities in aviation safety in Africa;
- The critical importance and relevance of the AFI Plan work programmes in the Region for the coming years, and
- The 2015 Programme evaluation recommendation on the continuation of the AFI Plan and the ongoing 2022 evaluation of the Plan.

### **Decisions/Recommendations**

- Support the continuation of AFI Plan activities beyond 2024 until 2030 for six years as part of the work programme of the ICAO Regional Offices, covering all safety and air navigation capacity and efficiency related areas, including aviation infrastructure planning;
- ICAO Secretariat to develop a related working paper for the upcoming 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly, in accordance with Resolution A38-7 on the AFI Plan;
- Call on States, international and regional organizations, financing institutions, and industry to continue supporting the programme;
- Evaluate the plan with regards to its relevance in supporting States and the results achieved through the support provided. To this effect ICAO secretariat to involve States supported by the plan in the evaluation process; the study should also highlight the accountability of the stakeholders in achieving results; and
- Key performance indicators should be established to assess the contribution of AFI Plan assistance activities to State's performance.

## **Discussion Paper 03 - 2022 AFI Plan work Programme and Budget**

The meeting took note of:

- The information provided in the 2022 AFI Plan work programme activities and associated budget;
- The challenge that the programme faced to effectively implement its programme due to COVID 19; and
- The efforts made by the ICAO Regional Offices to engage States virtually and online during the period.

### **Decisions/Recommendations**

- The Steering Committee approved the 2022 AFI Plan Work Programme and budget.

### **Discussion Paper 04 - Implementation status of the revised Abuja Safety Targets and Air Navigation Services Performance Indicators and AFI CIS Implementation Status report**

The meeting took note of:

- The information provided on the Status of implementation of the revised Abuja Safety and ANS Targets (ASTs) as well as on the AFI Cooperative Inspectorate Scheme (CIS).

### **Decisions/Recommendations**

- AFCAC in collaboration with ICAO and other key partners to convene a meeting to evaluate and revise the Abuja safety targets and air navigation parameters in line with the new GASP and GANP targets;
- Review the implementation modalities of the AFI CIS in collaboration with key partners; and
- Prioritize low EI areas such as AIG, ANS and AGA in the AFI-CIS implementation support strategy and actions.

### **Discussion Paper 05 Review and approval of the recommendations of the RSOO study and the proposed strategy and roadmap**

The meeting took note of:

- The 2017 Ezulwini Declaration on Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs) in Africa ;
- Subsequent guidance provided by the SC of AFI Plan on the development of a Strategic Plan for supporting and strengthening Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs) in Africa; and
- The AFI RSOO study conducted and presented to States and partners during a validation workshop in November 2021

### **Decisions/Recommendations**

- ICAO in collaboration with the AUC, AFCAC, EASA and other key Partners to organize a High-level Forum as a follow up of the Ezulwini Declaration of March 2017 to establish continental common understanding and synergy on the implementation of the AFI RSOOs Strategic Plan; and

- Present the reviewed AFI RSOOs study recommendations, Strategic Plan and Implementation Roadmap including the outcomes of the High-level forum, to African Ministers responsible for Civil Aviation for their consideration.

#### **Discussion Paper 06 • Status report on the Aviation Professionals Study**

The meeting took note of:

- The progress made so far in the conduct of the Aviation Professionals Study;
- The results of the preliminary analysis of the survey responses and the ongoing related activities; and
- The challenge in obtaining enough information.

#### **Decision/Recommendation**

- Finalize and present the results of the study to the next AFI Plan SC meeting.

#### **Partners Presentation**

##### **EU – EASA**

The meeting took note of

- The various key supports that EU EASA is providing to enhance aviation safety across African Continent.

##### **Decisions and Recommendations**

- Commend EU -EASA for continued assistance that is being provided including human resource capacity building in Africa.

##### **IATA**

The meeting took note of

- IATAs Continued Support in the implementation of Global Aviation Safety Programme (GASP) and the Abuja Safety Targets (AST)

##### **Decisions and Recommendations**

- Encourage IATA to continue supporting the implementation of the global and regional safety implementation plans and targets in coordination with stakeholders.

##### **AATO**

The meeting took note of



- The significant potential role of AATO to support the various initiatives in aviation human resource development in Africa; and
- The key sustainability challenges that the organization has been facing to carry out its objective.

#### **Decision and recommendations**

- Develop a project under the AFI Plan and AFI SECFAL Plan supporting the programmes of the AATO for the consideration of the Steering Committees.
- AFI Plan Secretariat in collaboration with AFCAC and other partners to look various options for AATO to continue relevant and provide the originally intended objectives.

#### **BAGASOO**

The meeting took note of

- The assistance activities provided by BAGASOO to its member States to enhance their safety oversight capacity

#### **Decision and recommendations**

- Encourage BAGASSO to continue its support activities

# AFI SECFAL PLAN SC/11

## Draft Outcomes

- 1. Status report on the implementation of the Decisions and Recommendations of the 10<sup>th</sup> AFI SECFAL Plan Steering committee (SC) Meeting.**
  - a) The SC noted the information contained in the working paper and in particular the implementation of the Recommendations and Decisions as highlighted in **Attachment A** to the Working Paper
  - b) The SC encouraged continuity of ongoing advocacy to establish a sustainable funding mechanism of the AFI SECFAL Plan and Supported the extension of the AFI SECFAL Plan programme for another period of six years from 2024 to 2030.
  
- 2. Report on the status of implementation of the 2021 AFI SECFAL Plan Work Programme and Approval of the 2022 Work Programme**
  - a) The SC noted the information contained in the Working Paper, and in particular the implementation of the 2021 Plan Work Programme as highlighted in **Attachment A** to the Working Paper, considered and approved retrospectively, the proposed 2022 AFI SECFAL Plan Work Programme submitted as **Attachment B** to the Working Paper.
  - b) The SC further commended the job well done by Partners and States for their continued support to the AFI SECFAL Plan, in terms of provision of both human and financial resources.
  - c) More so, the SC requested the AUC to urge AU states issuing e-passports to join the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD)
  - d) The SC directed the secretariat to include or align in the 2022 Work Programme activities linked to the outcomes of the ICAO High-level Conference on the impact of Covid-19 Pandemic, for review and approval during a SC Meeting to be convened
  
- 3. Report on the status of implementation of the 9<sup>th</sup> RASFALG-AFI Meeting Recommendations, activities, and operationalization of the AFI-CES Cooperative Scheme.**
  - a) The SC noted the information contained in the Working Paper, the actions taken in the implementation of the 9<sup>th</sup> RASFALG-AFI recommendations and the adoption of the revised Windhoek Declaration and Targets.
  - b) The SC invited African member States and stakeholders to provide necessary support to the RASFALG-AFI in its efforts to improve aviation security and facilitation in Africa
  - c) Urged States to implement the One Stop Security in Africa and call up on regional organizations to spearhead the implementation of OSS strategy implementation.

#### **4. Status report on the implementation of the Revised Windhoek Declaration and Targets.**

- a) The SC took note of the content of the Working Paper and its appendices and progress achieved and noted the decision EX.CL/Dec.1143-1167 (XL) of the 41st AU Executive Council in its Fortieth Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa, on the endorsement of the revised Windhoek Declaration and Targets and called upon States to provide updated data on the new revised targets.
- b) The SC further noted the progress made in the implementation of the Windhoek Declaration and Targets and urged African member States to put more effort on actions taken to meet the objectives of the revised Windhoek Declaration and set Targets.
- c) Foster cooperation among States to support systems to enhance security to include the AFI-CES

#### **5. Recent developments in the ICAO Facilitation Programme, notably developments pertaining to Amendment 29 to Annex 9 — Facilitation, the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) and the ICAO Traveler Identification Programme (TRIP) Strategy**

- a) The SC noted the information in the Working Paper and encouraged States to implement the provisions of Annex 9 – Facilitation,
- b) The SC urged states to consider deployment of the iPacks, participate in the Facilitation-related training courses, join the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) and implement the recommendations of the Facilitation Stream of the High-Level Conference on COVID-19.
- c) Consider using resources of AFI SECFAL Plan, AFCAC and other parties to implement the Annex 9 provisions
- d) Noted the continuing low-level implementation of the API /PNR in the AFI region, and strongly advised the States to share their challenges to inform decision making, moving forward.

### **Presentations by Partners**

#### **1. EU- CASE Projects in Africa**

The EU acknowledged the continued valuable relationship with regional organisations such as AFCAC and RSOOs and highlighted the numerous Bilateral Activities and Multilateral activities support initiatives with African in the areas of Counter MANPADS, National Auditors Insider Risk Land-side Security Assessment Covert and Overt Testing and Security Equipment Inspection

The SC appreciated the continued support and engagement with AFCAC and AFI States in the region for elevation of compliance and sustainable aviation security and Facilitation

#### **2. ASTC Activities in Africa**

The Lagos ASTC presented main highlights, statistics and reports from the five ASTCs in ICAO ESAF & WACAF Regions for the period from the year 2021, indicating that activities were mainly virtual due to Covid -19 pandemic. Recommending for a forum for ASTCs in the region, the

ASTCs concluded by appreciating the continued support by States, ICAO Regional Offices and the Implementation Support Development Security section (ISD-SEC), calling for additional ICAO sponsored courses onto of the one currently offered per annum.

### **3. UNOCT in Africa - an overview of counter-terrorism programmatic activities**

UNOCT provided an overview of Programmatic Activities in Africa, in terms technical assistance and capacity building support to member States through the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB). UNOCT informed the meeting that it will continue to assist States to build their capabilities to detect and counter the movement of terrorists and serious criminals using travel information, through effective uses of both the API and PNR Systems.

### **4. ISIL in Africa: Nature of Threats and Responses. – CTED**

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UN-CTED) made a presentation highlighting the nature of threats in Africa and updating on the responses to counter such threats in collaboration with individual States. The Directorate pledged continued support to States with potential or real terrorist footprints, to protectively combat the threats.

### **5. INTERPOL – Border Control Projects in Africa**

On the Border Control Projects in Africa, Interpol informed the meeting that it has continued to implement projects, in furtherance of the AU agenda 2063 and other relevant UN and international covenants related to transnational crimes.

Other projects Interpol shed light upon include the West Africa Police Information System, GEMINI Project ( aimed at detection and interdict foreign terrorist fighters), GEMAC Project( aimed at extension of the 1-24/7 to CEMAC Countries and Project AGWE aimed at enhancement of –maritime law enforcement capabilities in the Gulf of Guinea. Others I -EAC Project on combating terrorism and transnational organized crimes, Facial imaging recognition searching Tracking( FIRST) initiative, Military law Enforcement Exchange of information via Interpol and Hot spot initiative.

The SC noted the projects as presented and requested States to actively populate and search the Interpol database

The SC requested the AU in collaboration with ICAO should consider holding a ministerial meeting to bring together, Ministerial responsible for transport and internal security/ border control related affairs

# AFI AVIATION WEEK SYMPOSIUM

## Outcomes

### *Session 1 - Global and Regional Perspectives*

- The AFI region to speed the alignment of its plans to the revised GASP targets and the 6th Edition of the GANP, foster the benefits awaited from new emerging technologies and take advantage of innovation to bring added value and to promote data driven decision making
- The full aviation recovery of Aviation is beyond 2023. States should build on the confidence of the public on air transport and consider the Facilitation as the key enabler
- Training should be harmonized between African Training Roadmap and the ICAO GAT to avoid segmentation of training initiatives; and ensure harmonized approach for capacity building as well as affordable low-cost courses
- More effort is required from aviation stakeholders to improve runway safety in the region

### *Session 2 - Aviation Safety*

- The meeting recognized the role of the AFI Plan in enhancing Aviation Safety in Africa through its various initiatives, and called for its continuous support to States to address safety issues.
- States are urged to allocate adequate resources to strengthen their safety oversight system, increase the communication with concerned stakeholders, share their experiences and maintain a tight liaison with the Regional Office
- The cooperation and mutual support among States, ICAO, AFCAC, RSOOs, RECs and other partners is highly needed in order to build synergies for better resource management and for improving effective implementation of the safety oversight

### *Session 3 - Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency*

- States to consider the implementation of BBBs and identify the applicable ASBU elements
- ANSPs to establish contingency measures to cope with the reduction of traffic and incomes induced by pandemics, ... such as COVID-19 to ensure the continuity of the provision of air traffic services
- ANSPs should reinforce their cooperation and collaboration through appropriate cooperative framework including sharing of expertise, peer review mechanism, ... for the provision of efficient air navigation services

- African ANSPs to include in their cooperation framework collaboration toward the implementation of a Seamless Sky in Africa as part of their contribution to the SAATM objective to achieve an affordable and eco-friendly air transport, through interoperable and harmonized technologies, systems and procedures.

#### ***Session 4 - Aviation Security and Facilitation***

- States are urged to give high priority to aviation Security including an enhanced collaboration with training Centers
- AFI states with effective aviation security systems should be effectively used, by sharing the best practices, to support States with challenges, through the AFI-CES mechanism

#### ***Session 5 - Capacity Building & Sustainable funding of the Aviation industry***

- Human Resources capacity building should be prioritized in all the initiatives. States should take advantages of training opportunities provided by the ICAO GAT. The call for the support of the AATO has been emphasized.
- The HRDF should be revitalize and strengthen to support the capacity building initiatives in the AFI region
- States should take advantage of the training opportunities provided by other partners (EASA, EU, Singapore, FAA, ...) to support the development of their aviation industry

#### ***Session 6- Air Transport and Economic Development***

- The meeting drawn the attention of States on the taxes and charged on air transport which has a negative impact on the air transport perspectives in Africa.
- The political commitment for the implementation of SAATM is key for the development of air transport and should be considered in addition to the implementation of the YD
- States should support new initiatives aiming to foster the development of intra Africa tourism

#### ***Session 7- Environmental Protection***

- States were reminded of the objectives of the LTAG and the outcomes from the LTAG-GLADs in the AFI Region, and on the importance of training as well as initiatives to support innovation. States are invited to participate at the ICAO HLM on LTAG and to the upcoming ICAO Assembly.
- States are encouraged to call for the support of the ICAO Regional Offices for the development or update of SAPs, on SAF and to volunteer in the CORSIA.

- States will be updated on the AFI ENV Plan which should be reviewed in due course. AFCAC should continue working with ICAO on environment matters and with ICAO and the industry on the development and deployment of SAFs in Africa.