



International Civil Aviation Organization

Fifth Meeting of the Asia Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Team (APRAST/5)

(Bangkok, Thailand, 16 – 19 September 2014)

Agenda Item 3: Review of the Work of APRAST and its Subsidiary Bodies

**REPORT ON THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION GROUP**

(Presented by the Chairman of the APAC-AIG)

SUMMARY

The Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group held its Second Meeting in May 2014. The meeting discussed the status of conclusions from APAC-AIG/1, investigation cooperation, investigation training, and independence of accident/incident investigation system.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The APAC-AIG held its Second Meeting (APAC-AIG/2) in Hong Kong, China on 27-28 May 2014. APAC-AIG/2 was attended by 34 participants from 15 States/Administrations and four representatives from international organisation/industry partners.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The key outcomes from APAC-AIG/2 are as follows:

- Independence of accident/incident investigation system

APAC-AIG/2 noted that the APRAST was considering recommending to the RASG-APAC that States/Administrations are encouraged to consider it a priority to implement the APAC-AIG's recommendations to address Annex 13 requirements.

- Database of investigation agencies

APAC-AIG/1 had agreed on the need to create a database of the investigation agencies in the APAC region. Such a database will allow States/Administrations to obtain contact information of their counterparts easily and will facilitate expeditious communication among States/Administrations. At the request of APAC-AIG/2, the ICAO APAC Office agreed to send a State Letter, on a half yearly basis, to remind States/Administrations to provide input to and update the database. The first of such State Letter was circulated on 15 July 2014 [Ref.: T 10/5.3 – AP108/14 (OFS)].

- Cooperation in underwater search of flight recorders

APAC-AIG/2 noted the international cooperative efforts of the investigators from Lao PDR, France and Singapore in successfully recovering the flight recorders of an ATR-72 that crashed into the Mekong River in Lao PDR on 16 October 2013. In relation to the MH370 underwater search activities, the meeting was also apprised of the work of the ICAO special meeting on 12 – 13 May 2014 to explore the need for globally tracking airline flights.

APAC-AIG/2 discussed and agreed on the need of a database of underwater search resources in Asia Pacific in an effort to improve the chances of a successful recovery of the flight recorders should an aircraft crash into water. It was agreed that the database of the APAC accident/incident investigation agencies be expanded to include information on underwater search resources. France and Singapore will propose what information on underwater search resources should be included in the expanded database.

- Cooperation in investigation training

APAC-AIG/2 noted the accident investigation workshop hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Vietnam on 14-17 April 2014 with the support of the Air Accident Investigation Bureau of Singapore (AAIB).

The AAIB also presented information on two training events that it would be hosting, viz. an Advanced Investigation Training on 21 – 25 July 2014 and a Workshop on Underwater Search of Flight Recorders on 30 – 31 July 2014. The AAIB welcomed APAC States/ Administrations to attend its training and the ICAO APAC Office will circulate the AAIB training information to the States/Administrations.

- Asian Society of Air Safety Investigators (AsiaSASI)

The Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department, President of the AsiaSASI, presented on the formation of and work done by the AsiaSASI. The AsiaSASI is the Asian regional chapter of the International Society Air Safety Investigators (ISASI), which is the only international grouping of air safety investigation professionals and investigation agencies. ISASI/ AsiaSASI membership can help accident investigators in APAC States/Administrations build a strong network for the sharing of investigation knowledge and techniques as well as investigation experience, with the common goal of achieving safety improvement. [Note: ISASI members in Asia are automatically AsiaSASI members.]

Thus, APAC-AIG/2 recommended to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage its members to consider joining the AsiaSASI (see Conclusion APAC-AIG 2/5).

2.2 APAC-AIG/2 developed five conclusions, as listed in **Attachment A**.

2.3 APAC-AIG/2 reviewed the upcoming investigation related activities/events and updated the APAC-AIG work plan (**Attachment B**). The work plan reflected the importance of building aircraft accident investigation capacity through exercises and recurrent training.

2.4 The Third Meeting of the APAC-AIG (APAC-AIG/3) will tentatively be held in 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka in conjunction with CAA Sri Lanka's hosting of the ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the activities of the APAC-AIG, in particular the increased regional cooperation on accident/incident investigation related activities;
- b) Consider and forward Conclusion APAC-AIG 2/5 to RSAG-APAC;
- c) Note that APAC-AIG/3 will tentatively be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2015 in conjunction with an ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop; and
- d) Encourage States/Administrations to attend APAC-AIG/3 and the ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop in Sri Lanka.

Conclusions of APAC-AIG/2

Ref to APAC-AIG/2 Conclusion	Conclusion	Status of Follow-up
2/1	that, ICAO APAC Office will send a State Letter, on a half yearly basis, to invite States/Administrations to update the information in the database.	Closed ICAO APAC Office has started sending out reminders on 15 Jul 14.
2/2	that, the database of APAC accident/incident investigation bodies will be expanded to include information on underwater search resources.	Open Pending outcome of the work on Conclusion APAC-AIG 2/3.
2/3	that, France and Singapore will propose what information on underwater search resources should be included in the expanded database.	Open Work-in-progress.
2/4	that, the ICAO APAC Office circulate the invitation to nominate participants for the Advanced Investigation Workshop and Workshop on Underwater Search of Flight Recorders to States/Administrations.	Closed ICAO APAC Office has sent out invitations.
2/5	that, APAC-AIG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage its members to consider joining AsiaSASI.	Open To be discussed at APRAST/5.

APAC-AIG Work Plan

Activities/Events		APAC-AIG Meeting	ICAO Regional Workshop	AsiaSASI Workshop	ISASI Annual Seminar	International Accident Investigation Forum	Meeting of the ICASS	1st Asian Turbomeca Engine Seminar	ICAO Technical and End-User Courses on ECCAIRS	Advanced Investigation Training	Workshop on Underwater Search of Flight Recorders	Aircraft Accident Site Safety Workshop	ECCAIRS In-house Training	Create AIUS Database
2013	Q1													
	Q2			13-14 Jun Taipei		23-25 Apr Singapore								
	Q3	18-19 Sep Bali	16-17 Sep Bali		19-22 Aug Vancouver						22-24 Jul Singapore	25-26 Jul Singapore		
	Q4													Provision of Data Database developed
2014	Q1													
	Q2	27 - 28 May Hong Kong		29 - 30 May Hong Kong				1 - 4 Apr Singapore	14 - 23 May					
	Q3									21 - 25 Jul Singapore	30 - 31 Jul Singapore			
	Q4		Proposed		13-16 Oct Adelaide		3 - 7 Nov Canberra							
2015	Q1													
	Q2	Proposed Sri Lanka	Proposed Sri Lanka											
	Q3				24- 27 Aug Augsburg									
	Q4													
2016	Q1													
	Q2	Proposed Apr Republic of Korea	Proposed Apr Republic of Korea			Proposed Apr Singapore								
	Q3													
	Q4													
2017	Q1													
	Q2	Proposed Apr	Proposed Apr											
	Q3													
	Q4													

Legend:

- Planned Events
- Proposed Events
- Estimated duration of work activities