



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL AVIATION
SAFETY TEAM (APRAST/4)**

(Manila, Philippines, 22 – 25 April 2014)

Agenda Item 4: Review of the Work of APRAST and its Subsidiary Bodies

**REPORT ON THE FIRST 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 First Meeting in September 2013. The meeting discussed the issues of independence of investigation, database of investigation agencies, investigation cooperation and investigator training.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group (APAC-AIG) was institutionalised from a restructuring of the APRAST Accident Investigation Ad hoc Working Group of (APRAST-AIG AWG). The APAC-AIG, as a group of accident/incident investigation officials with representation from the investigation authorities, industry partners and professional bodies, serves as a permanent framework in the APAC region for cooperation in the area of aircraft accident/incident investigation. Such cooperation will, through the exchange of views, practices and experiences, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the accident investigation systems of the APAC States/Administrations, thereby enhancing aviation safety.

1.2 The APAC-AIG held its First Meeting (APAC-AIG/1) in Bali, Indonesia on 18-19 September 2013, in conjunction with Indonesia's hosting of an ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop on 16-17 September 2013. APAC-AIG/1 was attended by 53 officials from 15 States/Administrations, 4 officials from international organisation/industry partners and 11 observers.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The key outcomes from APAC-AIG/1 are as follows:

- ICAO State Letter 2013/55 dated 19 July 2013
ICAO is proposing a new standard specifying that "States shall establish an accident investigation authority that is independent from State aviation authorities and other entities that could interfere with the conduct or objectivity of an investigation". ICAO AIG Section has advised that an investigation unit that is part of a CAA will not be considered as meeting the new standard. If adopted, the standard will become applicable on 10 November 2016. States/

Administrations were encouraged to consider and start planning for the setting up of an independent investigation authority as soon as possible, if not already done.

- Database of investigation agencies

APAC-AIG/1 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, particularly on the following matters:

- (1) Seeking investigation-related assistance from accident/incident investigation agencies in other States/Administrations; and
- (2) Seeking assistance on administrative and training matters.

Bangladesh very kindly volunteered to develop and manage this database which will be hosted by the ICAO APAC Office on its website. The ICAO APAC Office issued a State Letter on 2 October 2013 to invite States/Administrations to provide the information needed for the database. To date, 13 States/Administrations have provided their input. They are Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong China, Macao China, France, Japan, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

- Code of Conduct on investigation cooperation

The meetings of the APRAST-AIG AWG had resulted in the development of an Asia Pacific Code of Conduct on Cooperation Relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation. To date, 16 States/Administrations have pledged their support to the Code of Conduct. They are Australia, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong China, Macao China, France, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republics of Korea, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

- Observer attachment

The meeting discussed the benefits of observer attachment as a means to enhance practical experience and competency of accident investigators.

- Investigation training

The meeting discussed the various forms of training which States/Administrations can consider providing, with a view to enhancing the competency of APAC investigators.

- Work plan

The meeting adopted a five-year APAC-AIG work plan (**Attachment**) which provides an overview of the upcoming investigation related activities/events. States/Administrations will be able to consider organising or participating in these activities/events, taking into consideration their individual organisation's commitment. The work plan will be updated as new information becomes available.

2.2 The Second Meeting of the APAC-AIG (APAC-AIG/2) will be hosted by the Civil Aviation Department of Hong Kong on 27-28 May 2014, in conjunction with its hosting of an accident investigation workshop of the Asian Society of Air Safety Investigators (AsiaSASI) on 29-30 May 2014.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the activities of the APAC-AIG, in particular its initiatives in respect of the Asia Pacific Code of Conduct on Cooperation Relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation and the database on investigation agencies;
- b) Note that Hong Kong, China will be hosting the Second Meeting of the APAC-AIG (APAC-AIG/2) on 27-28 May 2014 and an AsiaSASI accident investigation workshop on 29-30 May 2014; and
- c) Encourage States/Administrations to attend APAC-AIG/2 and the AsiaSASI accident investigation workshop.

APAC-AIG Work Plan

Activities/Events		APAC AIG Meeting	ICAO Regional Workshop	Asia SAGI Workshop	ISASI Annual Seminar	International Accident Investigation Forum	Aircraft Accident Site Safety Workshop	ECCAIRS In-house Training	Safety Management Investigation Course	Create AIG 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									
2014	Q1									
	Q2	Proposed Apr Hong Kong		Proposed Apr Hong Kong					Planned Jul Singapore	
	Q3									
	Q4		Proposed		13-16 Oct Adelaide					
2015	Q1									
	Q2	Proposed Sri Lanka	Proposed Sri Lanka							
	Q3				Germany					
	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

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