

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/25) & Eighth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for the AFI Region (RASG-AFI/8) – Joint sessions
7 - 11 November 2022
ICAO Environmental Capacity Building Activities in the AFI Region
(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
<p>This paper presents updates on the ICAO environmental capacity building activities in the AFI region, and the support provided to Member States with States' Action Plan Initiatives, CORSIA requirements and Sustainable Aviation Fuels.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting is provided in paragraph 3</p>
<p>REFERENCE(S):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annex 16 • ICAO Doc 9988
<p><i>B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, D – Economic Development of Air Transport, and E – Environmental Protection</i></p>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Several activities related to environmental protection have been conducted in the AFI region to support States and have resulted in positive outcomes. The ICAO Regional Offices developed a capacity building strategy in 2019, that aims to provide direct support to States, through workshops and regular coordination with the States' Focal Points (FPs); the objectives being to focus on the information sharing on the latest developments at ICAO on environment, provide support and develop environment capacity building activities for the States.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In 2021 and 2022, the Regional Offices organized several meetings with States to support the development or update of the States' Action Plan (SAP), implementation of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) requirements and development of initiatives on Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs). Furthermore, the Secretariat provided training to States on the ICAO Environment Tools¹ that support States' initiatives to reduce aviation's carbon

¹ <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/Tools.aspx>

footprint. Besides providing individual technical support upon requests, several virtual meetings and video calls with group of States were also conducted.

2.2 With regards to SAFs, the two Offices organized a virtual workshop in April 2022. The purpose of this workshop was to share information on the SAF certification process for CORSIA Eligible Fuels (CEFs).

2.3 Under CORSIA, the verification of the CO₂ emissions data from aeroplane operators flying internationally is crucial to ensure the quality and robustness of the Scheme. ICAO Annex 16 Volume IV defines the different steps of verification to be undertaken at aeroplane operators' level, by a verification body and at the States' level prior to submitting the CO₂ emissions data to ICAO. In June 2022, a workshop was conducted with the intention of guiding States on the different steps of verification including explanation of the verification of CO₂ emission data in CORSIA by the aeroplane operators and the verification bodies and conduct of the order of magnitude check to be performed by the States as per Annex 16, Volume IV. Moreover, participants were trained on the use of the CERT.

2.4 To support the States in the Region to develop and/or update their SAPs an event on the SAPs and related tools such as EBT and MAC was conducted in August 2022. Guidance was provided on the SAP development process, and on the SAP information related to the CORSIA.

2.5 As of today, 73% of AFI States have developed and submitted their SAPs to ICAO. This includes the 5 States of the ESAF region and 5 States of the WACAF Region who have updated their SAP during 2021/2022. It is important for the meeting to note that States requiring support to develop or update their SAPs can contact the ICAO Regional Offices. Regional organizations are also invited to work in coordination with ICAO to facilitate capacity building activities and avoid duplication.

2.6 To better support its Member States with the CORSIA implementation, ICAO has developed a capacity building programme called Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for the CORSIA (ACT-CORSIA) that was endorsed by the Council in June 2018. At this occasion, the ICAO Council, emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach under ICAO ACT-CORSIA programme to harmonize and bring together all relevant actions and promote coherence to capacity building efforts. The Council also requested that any bilateral or multilateral partnerships among States should be coordinated with ICAO, so that the global progress of such coordinated efforts would be monitored.

2.7 Under the ICAO ACT-CORSIA programme, buddy partnerships among States have been established across the Regions. Building upon this successful and coordinated approach under ICAO, CORSIA Buddy Partnerships across various ICAO Regions were established, involving 16 donor States (including 3 from the ESAF and WACAF Regions) and 98 recipient States.

2.8 Several ACT CORSIA seminars and follow up coordination calls to train States with the support of Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa were conducted by the Regional Offices. The ACT CORSIA Phase 3 in 2022 focused on the CORSIA CCR implementation of CO₂ emissions reporting and verification requirements.

2.9 ICAO launched recently, in June 2022, a new programme to support its Member States with the development and deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuels, - ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ACT-SAF). The objective of this new programme is to provide tailored support to States in various stages of SAF development and deployment, facilitate partnerships and cooperation on SAF initiatives under ICAO coordination and serve as a platform to facilitate knowledge sharing and recognition of all SAF initiatives around the globe. The ICAO regional Offices play an important role in bringing Regional partners together and supporting capacity building and implementation activities. Currently 13 States of the AFI Region have joined ACT-SAF. Member States are invited to contact ICAO to be part of the programme.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information presented in this Paper
- b) Invite States to contact ICAO Regional Offices for any support on environment such as SAP development or update, CORSIA requirements implementation and any questions related to ACT-SAF.
