



International Civil Aviation Organization

**Second Meeting of the Middle East Regional Aviation Safety Group
(RASG-MID/2)**

(Abu Dhabi, UAE, 12 - 14 November 2012)

Agenda Item 2: Global Developments related to Aviation Safety

RASG ACTIVITIES IN THE DIFFERENT ICAO REGIONS

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides a status on the establishment of Regional Aviation Safety Groups in the different ICAO Regions.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 On 25 May 2010, the 190th Session of the ICAO Council approved the establishment of the following RASGs: RASG-PA for the Caribbean, South American, and North American regions (including Central America); RASG-EUR for the European region; RASG-APAC for the Asia Pacific Regions; RASG- AFI for the African Region and RASG-MID for the Middle East Region, with the aim of supporting a regional performance framework for the management of safety.

1.2 This working paper provides a status of the establishment of Regional Aviation Safety Groups in the different ICAO Regions.

2. DISCUSSION

Regional Aviation Safety Group – Asia/Pacific (RASG-APAC)

2.1 The Forty Seventh Meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation APAC (DGAC-47) meeting held 25-29 October 2010 in Macao, China agreed to the establishment of the RASG-ASIA/PAC. Subsequently the first meeting of the RASG-APAC was held in Noumea, New Caledonia on 10-11 October 2011.

2.2 The RASG-APAC, elected a structure similar to the APANPIRG where the Chairperson and Vice Chairpersons are elected from amongst Member States. Contributing bodies such as Working Groups and ad hoc groups report to the RASG-APAC through the Asia Pacific Regional Aviation Safety team (APRAST) which will be Co-chaired by a Member State and an Industry Partner. The First Meeting of the APRAST was on 20 - 23 February 2012. Furthermore

the RASG-APAC agreed to establish two ad hoc Working Groups; the Safety Reporting and Programme WG (APAC-SRP) and the Accident Investigation WG (APAC-AIG).

Regional Aviation Safety Group – Europe (RASG-EUR)

2.3 The high level meeting of European Directors General of Civil Aviation held 15-17 February 2011 agreed to the establishment of the European Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-EUR) for the entire European Region. Subsequently a meeting for the establishment of the RASG-EUR was convened in Paris on 16 May 2011. Following the RASG-EUR/01 meeting, which was held in Paris on 23-24 January 2012, the RASG-EUR Coordination Group (RCOG) met twice in Paris in 2012 with the objectives to review the safety mechanisms already existing in the ICAO EUR Region and to propose issues of priority to be addressed and contributory groups to be created within the RASG-EUR. The RCOG/01 was held on 24-25 April 2012 and the RCOG/02 on 26-27 September 2012, with participation of experts from various States in the Region, as well as experts from EASA, ECAC, Eurocontrol, IAC (Interstate Aviation Committee), FSFI (Flight Safety Foundation International), CANSO, IFALPA and ICCAIA.

2.4 As a result of these two RCOG meetings, a number of issues of priority have been identified, and a consensus was found to recommend to the RASG-EUR the creation of a “ICAO EUR Regional Expert Safety Team” (IE-REST) to support the development and implementation of safety enhancement initiatives and activities for the part of the ICAO EUR Region which is not covered by the EU/EASA regulatory framework. The IE-REST would report to the RASG-EUR. It would have two Co-chairs (one from a State and the other one from the industry) and the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office serving as the Secretariat. The proposal of creation of the IE-REST will be made at the RASG-EUR/02 (which will be held in Paris on 26-27 February 2013) by the ICAO Secretariat on behalf of the RCOG.

The Regional Aviation Group – Pan America (RASG-PA)

2.5 The Regional Aviation Group – Pan America was established for the South American, Central America, North American and the Caribbean regions in 2008. It was formalized into an ICAO body in 2010. RASG-PA normally holds one annual meeting and coordinates its activities through an Executive Steering Committee (ESC) which holds four annual meetings and monthly teleconferences

2.6 Currently RASG-PA is working on Model legislation for the protection of safety information (GS-3), flight data analysis reporting (GSI-12), a regional accident/incident investigation agency for Central America (GSI-4), flight safety training, safety enhancement initiatives for data driven risk areas (Runway Excursions – RE, Controlled Flight into Terrain – CFIT and Loss of Control In flight – LOC-I) and the annual safety report. It accomplishes this work with three Regional Aviation Safety Teams (Annual Safety Report Team – ASRT, Flight Safety Training Team – FSTT and the Regional Aviation Safety Team – RAST).

2.7 RASG-PA disseminates information to the aviation community through the RASG-PA meeting report, the annual safety report, an annual safety summit, a dedicated webpage, a quarterly newsletter and safety recommendations. The last meeting of the RASG-PA (ESC/15) took place on 21 October 2012 in Santiago, Chile.

2.8 The RASG-PA signed a formal agreement to exchange safety information with the Commercial Aviation Safety Team (CAST)/Aviation Safety Information Analysis and Sharing System (ASIAS) last December. This is the first information sharing undertaking by CAST/ASIAS outside the United states. It marks the first step in the accomplishment of worldwide information sharing as agreed at the ICAO High Level Safety Conference held in Montreal in October 2011.

Regional Aviation Safety Group Africa-Indian Ocean (RASG-AFI)

2.9 The Fourth Meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation of ESAF and WACAF States (DGCA/4) held in Matsapha, Swaziland on 8-9 November 2010 approved the concept of the RASG and is undergoing the organizational structure to reflect membership and the relationship with the COSCAPs and RSOOs. The first meeting of RASG-AFI took place from 26 to 27 March 2012 in Kampala, Uganda.

2.10 The RASG-AFI established a Steering Committee (RASC), a RAST, an Annual Safety Report Team (ASRT) and Safety Support Teams (RSST). The latter are headed by Champions who are members of the RASC, for priority projects related to Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs), Fundamentals of Safety Oversight (FSO), Accident Investigation (AI) and Emerging Safety Issues (ESI).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information in this paper.