



ASSEMBLY — 37TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 31: Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC) PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES CARRIED OUT UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AVIATION SAFETY IN AFRICA

(Presented by the EAC CASSOA)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the 36th Assembly the ICAO Secretariat reported on the establishment of the Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa (AFI Plan) which aims to reduce the number of aircraft accidents in Africa and the Indian Ocean region. During the period 2007 – 2010, the East African region and ICAO, in particular the ICAO AFI Comprehensive Implementation Programme (ACIP) and the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESAF) Office, have collaborated in undertaking activities under the AFI Plan.

This paper outlines the various activities undertaken under the AFI Plan and their status of implementation to complement information presented by the Secretariat under Working Paper A37-WP/41. As will be noted, the identified priority projects and programmes with the support of the ACIP are on-going and are required to be continued to their conclusions for the intended positive impact to be achieved in the region.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) take note of the EAC regional priority projects and programmes approved by the ICAO Council for implementation with the support of ACIP;
- b) request Contracting States, Developing Partners or Donors to support the EAC priority programmes and projects in financial, technical or other areas for their conclusive implementation;
- c) support the request by the Secretariat for approval of the continuation of ACIP activities within the work programme of the Regional Offices in Africa (ESAF and WACAF).

Strategic Objectives:

This working paper relates to Strategic Objectives A and D.

References:

Doc 9902, *Assembly Resolutions in Force* (as of 28 September 2007)
Secretariat Working Paper A37-WP/41

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The aim of the ACIP work plan was to enhance safety oversight of African States through enabling the States to be able to establish and maintain a sustainable safety oversight system (capacity building), assisting the States to resolve their identified deficiencies within a reasonable timeframe, and enhancing the aviation safety culture (Just Culture) in aviation service providers.

2. GAP ANALYSIS OF THE REGION

2.1 The Global Aviation Safety Roadmap (GASR) Workshop organised jointly by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA), the East Africa Community CASSOA and the Industry Safety Strategy Group (ISG) was held in Arusha, Tanzania, from 12 to 14 August 2008.

2.2 Following this Workshop, CASSOA, with the support and assistance of the ACIP and the ICAO ESAF Office, facilitated the gap analyses in the EAC Partner States of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The gap analyses in all the five Partner States were carried out between October 2008 and July 2009. Subsequently a joint meeting held in Kampala, Uganda from 13 to 14 August 2009 formulated priority projects and programmes to address the identified gaps. The request for support was approved by the ICAO Council during its 188th Session held in Montreal.

3. PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS UNDER ACIP SUPPORT

3.1 Capacity Building and Enhancement of CASSOA

3.1.1 Study the legal, organizational and financial frameworks of CASSOA, with a view to enhancing its mandate, and supporting its implementation.

3.2 Establishment of a Regional Accident Investigation Organisation

3.2.1 Development of frameworks and an implementation plan for the establishment of an independent EAC Regional Accident Investigation Agency; and

3.2.2 Development of a guidance manual for the effective operation and management of the EAC Regional Accident Investigation Agency.

3.3 Implementation of a SSP and SMS in the Region

3.3.1 Development of a draft Regional Safety Programme for the EAC;

3.3.2 Development of a plan for the effective implementation of the service providers' Safety Management System (SMS) relevant to the EAC region; and

3.3.3 Development of an IT system to collect, integrate and analyze EAC regional safety data – being assisted by European Safety Agency in developing the concept and system, its implementation may require additional support.

3.4 Harmonizing the Technical Examination System and Building Technical Capacity in the Region

3.4.1 Establishment of a common Personnel Licensing examination bank for the EAC Region and supporting capacity building for its management.

4. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The Letter of Understanding (LOU) between the EAC Partner States and ICAO-ACIP was concluded on 5 March 2010 for the implementation of the above projects/programmes. However, start of implementation was delayed and following a joint meeting with ICAO ESAF/ACIP and the EAC/CASSOA on 24 August 2010, it was agreed that implementation of most of the above projects/programmes would start in September/October 2010. There were also priority programmes/projects which were identified by the region and approved by the Council, but which could not be accommodated in the ACIP support, with an understanding that they will be tackled under the ESAF regular activities.

4.2 Due to the delay, most of the projects/programmes will progress into 2011/2012.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The EAC CASSOA supports the Council decision to integrate ACIP activities into the African Regional Offices' regular work programme as of January 2011. The identification and development of programmes/projects should, however, involve the relevant stakeholders, including the applicable States or regional organisations so as to ensure a focused and sustainable approach in resolving the identified safety gaps.

5.2 The EAC CASSOA also requests that continued support is necessary by ICAO, States, industry and donors on the implementation of the ACIP planned activities through the ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices or directly to States/regional organisations for improvement of international aviation safety.

— END —