



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 38TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 38: Other issues to be considered by the Technical Commission

**PROPOSAL TO CREATE E-LEARNING INITIATIVES ON
SAFETY MANAGEMENT SUBJECTS**

(Presented by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This working paper proposes the development of an e-learning environment for ICAO online courses with the aim of improving safety, achieving a smooth transition to the new framework and securing the effective implementation both of safety management systems (SMS) in industry and of State safety programmes in States.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) take note of the information presented in this working paper; and
- b) urge ICAO to take actions necessary to:
 - i) promote the use of distance learning (e-learning) for safety training; and
 - ii) establish guidelines to develop online courses for the aviation community.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to the Safety Strategic Objective.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not applicable.
<i>References:</i>	EB 2011/44: <i>ICAO Computer-Based Training (CBT) in USOAP CMA Activities</i> Doc 9859 – <i>Safety Management Manual</i> , 3rd Edition 2013

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Improving safety and achieving a smooth transition to the new framework depend on the successful implementation of both Safety Management Systems (SMS) in industry and State Safety Programmes (SSP) in States.

1.2 In turn, the successful implementation of SMS and SSP largely depends on two fundamental aspects: culture and training. With respect to the training of personnel in charge of starting up the aforementioned processes, there are countless limitations including time, space and resources. This is why distance or e-learning constitutes a viable option for the effective mass transfer of knowledge.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Safety training is an issue of great interest all around the world. Indeed, a lack of training has hampered the effective implementation of safety management systems in aviation companies. Although there is a high demand for training on the market, the supply is limited in certain States, which complicates the efficient interplay of the time, space and resource variables.

2.2 In light of these complications and for safety training to be strengthened, there is a pressing need for new distance or e-learning models in the field of safety. This novel training method was made possible by the Internet and is poised to become the predominant paradigm. Having transformed education with individually and organizationally tailored courses, e-learning is gaining stature and recognition in the business and educational communities.

2.3 E-learning consists of online education and training, which allows the user to interact with course material by means of different IT instruments, on the basis of the pedagogical fundamentals of teaching and learning.

2.4 This type of education offers many benefits, not least of which are cost control, quick and easy communication, and easy access by users from any Internet connection. Moreover, there is no need for a group of people to agree when and where to hold a lesson. These advantages are perfectly suited to technical fields thanks to the labour dynamics of the aviation industry.

2.5 Some subjects that would lend themselves well to e-learning initiatives are: SMS for all areas of expertise (both theory and practice), SSP (basic and ALoS development), procedures for identifying and filing differences, and how to use the USOAP-CMA on-line framework, to name a few.

2.6 The State of Venezuela has taken advantage of such distance learning initiatives, to give aviation inspectors in the different fields specific skills in implementing and maintaining an SMS.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 In view of all of the advantages and benefits offered by mass IT learning and in support of SMS/SSP implementation, this working paper proposes to make best use of the e-learning environment through the development of distance learning mechanisms designed by ICAO for safety training in the aviation community.