



Twenty - Eighth Regional Aviation Safety Group — Pan America Executive Steering Committee Meeting (RASG-PA ESC/28)

ICAO SAM Regional Office, Lima, Peru, 4 to 5 May 2017

Agenda Item 9: Items/Briefings of Interest to the RASG-PA ESC

**ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN
AIG REGIONAL COOPERATION MECHANISM (ARCM)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
<p>This information paper presents to the Twenty-Eighth Regional Aviation Safety Group — Pan America Executive Steering Committee Meeting (RASG-PA ESC/28), the achievements of the Regional Cooperation Mechanism for AIG (ARCM) of South America in regard to its establishment and operation.</p>	
<i>Action:</i>	<p>Take note of the current situation of the South American Regional Cooperation Mechanism (ARCM) and support the work that is being done.</p>
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency • Economic Development of Air Transport
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the First Meeting of SAM Region AIG Authorities (AIG-SAM/01), Lima, Peru, 18 - 20 March 2014. • Report of the Second Meeting of SAM Region AIG Authorities (AIG-SAM/02), Buenos Aires, Argentina, 09 - 11 June 2015. • Report of the Third Meeting of SAM Region AIG Authorities (AIG-SAM/03), Lima, Peru, 07 - 09 March 2016. • Annex 13 – <i>Investigation of aviation accidents and incidents</i>. • Doc 9946 – <i>Manual on regional accidents and incidents investigation organizations (RAIO)</i>.

1. Introduction

1.1 With the vision of improving the effective implementation (EI) of its States and to support the decrease of aircrafts accidents and incidents rate in the SAM Region, the ICAO South American Office, in 2013 and 2014, carried out a survey and a diagnosis of the AIG situation in its States.

1.2 In the diagnosis accomplished, the SAM Region analysed the last results obtained for its States in the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) up to 2014, and determined, that one of the audit areas with less effective implementation (EI) regarding the safety oversight capability was the area of aircraft accidents and incidents investigation (AIG), showing **69.64%** of compliance.

1.3 It was principally observed that, in this area, the aspects related to investigation policies and procedures; development, completion and release of the final report; organization and personnel staffing and training; development, issuance, and recording of safety recommendations and accident/incident data reporting (ADREP) are the ones that have the highest number of unsatisfactory Protocol Questions (PQ) as the SAM States general average.

1.4 The Region considered that those aspects should be object of a deeper analysis in order to identify the root causes and to establish mitigation measures that could be tackled from a collaborative point of view through the implementation of a regional AIG cooperation mechanism, as one of the forms of a regional organization for aircrafts accidents and incidents investigation (RAIO), and as one of the acceptable solutions to improve the SAM Region effective implementation and support the decrease of accidents and incidents in the region.

1.5 The Region also analysed the possibility that several States would not have the resources to investigate the full range of aviation accidents and incidents or to carry out an exhaustive analysis of data on accidents and incidents that are received. For these States, the establishment of the ARCM could be one of the solutions to improve their national system of investigating accidents and incidents.

2. ARCM Establishment and Management

2.1 To establish the ARCM, the South American Region held three face-to-face meetings and one virtual meeting in a period of two-year management.

2.2 In the First meeting (Lima, Peru, 18 - 20 March 2014), SAM States AIG authorities presented the situation of their organizations and agreed on a strategic plan to conform the ARCM. As follow up of this meeting, a virtual meeting was programmed in November 2014, in which the diagnosis of the AIG situation in South America was presented, which was the base for the first steps of the ARCM creation.

2.3 In the Second meeting (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 09 - 11 June 2015), AIG authorities of 13 States of South America formally established the ARCM, and approved the first version of the regulations and guidance material of the AIG mechanism.

2.4 In the Third meeting (Lima, Peru, 07 - 09 March 2016), AIG authorities of SAM States signed a multinational technical cooperation agreement to facilitate the cooperation among its States. Up to date, 10 of the 13 States have adhered to this Agreement.

2.5 The ARCM has been implemented following its strategic plan principal guidelines and according to a continuous process that has allowed to the AIG authorities of the 13 South American States to share their knowledge and resources.

2.6 During the stages of the process, States have agreed on the benefits that can be obtained with the implementation of the mechanism, considering also that this could be the solution for States having difficulties in attending their international commitments in matter of accidents investigation.

2.7 The ARCM participation is open to the AIG Authorities of States of the Region, as well as to State and/or private entities that, interested in accidents and incidents investigation, express their will to be part of the ARCM as special observers.

2.8 The following AIG organizations are presently part of the ARCM as special observers: BEA from the Republic of France, NTSB from the United States of North America, and CASSOS (Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System).

3. Achievements

3.1 A set of regulations and documents has been elaborated in accordance with ICAO documents guidelines, in order that the investigation organizations of the Region adopt or harmonise it. This will allow standardising procedures for carrying out accidents and incidents investigations in the region within a common and harmonised framework.

3.2 Likewise, a webpage has been created (www.arcm-sam.org), where all the documents and activities developed by the ARCM are being posted.

3.3 Instruction has been provided to the Sates AIG specialists in the installation and use of the ADREP / ECCAIRS system.

3.4 The ARCM has established a safety data collection and processing system (SDCPS) to guarantee the collection, storage and management of accidents and incidents data of member States. This system will permit establishing the necessary preventive measures to improve safety in the region.

3.5 Virtual technical assistance has been provided to the majority of SAM States in the revision of AIG protocol questions (PQ). The follow up of this assistance will be carried out during 2017.

3.6 Eleven AIG Authorities of the ARCM States have signed the AIG Cooperation Agreement which will allow for regional cooperation and use of the following resources subject to the agreement of the parties:

- ✓ Investigators or other specialists related to the field of AIG;
- ✓ technical installations;
- ✓ equipment related to accidents and serious incidents investigations;
- ✓ training, including on-the-job training (OJT);
- ✓ reading of flight data recorders and cockpit voice recorders;
- ✓ material and fluids trials; and
- ✓ elaboration of documents and other publications.

4. Next Steps

4.1 Once the ARCM has been established, the principal objective of AIG authorities is to operate the mechanism in an effective and efficient way, comply with the annual activities programme allowing the management of regional safety in the field of AIG, improve effective implementation (EI) of member States, and reduce aircraft accidents and incidents rate in the Region.

4.2 The annual activities programme contemplates the harmonization of regulations, activities with multinational teams to facilitate AIG assistance, training activities and workshops, AIG meetings, implementation of ADREP/ECCAIRS systems in all the States of the region, and the implementation of the ARCM safety data collection and processing system (SDCPS) at a regional level.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The South American AIG Regional Cooperation Mechanism (ARMM) is well on its way to becoming a key tool in improving the safety of its Member States and the Region.

6. Suggested Action

6.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the current situation of the South American Regional Cooperation Mechanism (ARCM); and
- b) support the work that is being done by this mechanism.