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COSTA RICA EXPERIENCE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SELF-ASSESSMENT

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INTRODUCTION

This presentation contains details on the Costa Rica experience in completing the Self-assessment, as well as the lessons learned, challenges, and aspects that could be useful to other States in the exercise of their responsibilities.





METHODOLOGY

The methodology to carry out this activity consisted of:

- 1. Division of tasks by audit area
- 2. A work plan in phases
- 3. Technical assistance
- 4. Accompaniment of the ICAO NACC Regional Office through SAP

1. DIVISION OF TASKS



Each Technical Unit of the DGAC was assigned the responsibility of executing a diagnosis of its area of competence, in order to guarantee that the knowledge and experience were used in the most effective way.

Furthermore, this ensured the best use of the institution's limited resources. Still, the Units interacted with each other in cross-sectional PQs that span various areas.

2. WORK PLAN BY PHASES



A work plan was devised in phases, which was approved by the General Directorate, and which consists of three main steps:

- General diagnosis of the audit protocol.
- Corrective action plans.
- Final evaluation of the activities.

Due to the situation of the pandemic, this plan has undergone some changes.

3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



Through a cooperation agreement, the Central American agency of aeronautical safety (ACSA), provides technical assistance to the DGAC technical work team. This has made it possible to strengthen each of the teams and to progress in a better way in the action plans identified during the diagnosis phase mentioned above.



4. SAP



An important element in the work strategy has been the integration of quarterly teleconferences under the SAP programme, during which it has been possible to demonstrate the progress of the State of Costa Rica in aspects related to USOAP. These teleconferences have made it possible to identify opportunities for improvement and make adjustments to optimize the work plan.





REQUIRED TIME

Due to the work carried out, certain experience has been acquired that has made it possible to define that a reasonable time to complete the Self-assessment is in the range of 3 to 6 months. Clarifying that the Self-assessment does not include the required time to perform the corrective actions, but it is the representation of the current status of the effective implementation of the DGAC based on the collected evidence and the analysis carried out by the Technical Units.



PERFORMANCE ADVANTAGES

- Comply with the provisions of ICAO Doc 9735.
- Provide the most up-to-date information to ICAO Headquarters and the ICAO NACC Regional Office.
- Generate a positive impact on the risk profile of the State.
- Facilitates periodic updating of the operational surveillance system
- Identify, more effectively, opportunities and areas for improvement.



FINDINGS

- The success of the implemented methodology depends on a high level of planning and continuous monitoring.
- The establishment of points of contact in each Technical Unit that serve as liaison with the NCMCs is essential for proper communication.
- For senior managers, the use of executive summaries with statistical information has been functional to update the progress of each work team.





QUESTIONS?



