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3rd AFI Safety Symposium
(Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, 28 June 2016)

RASG AFI-INITIATIVES

Achievements and Challenges

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Overview

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Introduction

- The establishment of a Regional Aviation Safety Group for Africa and the Indian Ocean (RASG-AFI) was endorsed by the DGCA/4 meeting held in Matsapa, The Kingdom of Swaziland, from 8 to 9 November 2010.
- The structure and terms of reference for RASG-AFI were approved by the first meeting of RASG-AFI in Kampala, Uganda, from 26 to 27 March 2012.



Objectives of RASG-AFI

- * RASG AFI serves as a regional cooperative forum to increase awareness of regional safety issues and initiatives whilst providing a mechanism for addressing them.
- * RASG-AFI monitors progress, coordinates actions among AFI States and makes recommendations to ICAO on means to facilitate the implementation of the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) within the AFI Region including the Abuja Safety Targets



Terms of Reference of RASG-AFI

- a) to develop and implement a work programme that supports a regional performance framework for the management of safety on the basis of the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP)

- b) Using the GASP to build on the work already done by States and existing sub-regional organizations and support the establishment and operation of a performance-based safety system for the region.



Key Initiatives of RASG AFI

- Publication of RASG - AFI Annual Safety Report by Annual Safety Report Team (two Editions produced so far)
- Establishment of Safety Support Teams to coordinate implementation assistance for priority projects to States .
 - The following State Champions have been designated: SSC (Significant Safety Concerns) – Ghana; South Arica; and AFCAC;
 - FSO (Fundamentals of safety Oversight) - Senegal and Uganda;
 - AIG (Accident Investigation) – Ethiopia; Cape Verde; and IFALPA; and
 - ESI (Emerging Safety Issues – (RS, CFIT, LOC-I, AIM)– Kenya, ASECNA, and ACI.
 - AFI Plan Goals for 2016 (Abuja Safety Targets, ICAO Plans of Action, etc) incorporated in RASG – AFI Work Programme
- RASG-AFI Steering Committee (RASC) comprising Secretariat, SSTs, RASG AFI Chairperson, Coordinator of the AFI Group at ICAO & Industry meet regularly (teleconference or face-to-face) to review progress of implementation of RASG-AFI Decisions & Conclusions including Priority Projects
- Establishment of a Joint Coordination Task Force for enhanced coordination with AFI Plan, APIRG, RSOOs and other safety partners.



Achievements

- Establishment of Safety Support Teams headed by Champions who are members of the RASC, for the following priority projects namely: Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs), Fundamentals of Safety Oversight (FSO), Accident Investigation (AIG) and Emerging Safety Issues (ESI).
- Resolution of Nine (9) SSCs in Seven (7) States.
- RASG-AFI initiatives among others, have resulted in twenty-two (22) AFI States attaining an EI of 60% and above
- Establishment of Runway Safety Teams at twelve (12) International airports to address the risks related to runway safety.



Challenges

- Lack of commitment - Some State Focal Points in deep slumber!
- Lack of complete autonomy of CAAs (both financial and authority)
- Lack of political will in recognising civil aviation as part of Government priorities
- Mechanism to access various stakeholder funding for project proposals not streamlined
- Human Resources Capacity and Personnel Training & Qualification: lack of sufficient number of duly qualified and trained personnel in some AFI-member States.
- Lack of coordination and synergy among Stakeholders (ICAO, States, Industry) particularly in training resulting in inefficiencies, saturation of safety personnel and conflicting schedules



Recommendations

- Need to adopt engagement strategies to ensure maximum commitment from State Focal Points in the collective effort towards the improvement of safety.
- Review of the safety metrics outlined in the Annual Safety Report and implementation of the corresponding Safety Recommendations to improve the level of safety in the AFI Region
- Development of synergies between Stakeholders safety initiatives towards the achievement of agreed safety objectives.
 - States offering Fellowships should submit their programmes by mid-year to ensure an evaluation against training needs, effective scheduling and incorporation into the following year's training programme
 - States to assess their training needs and draw up training programmes and plans accordingly.



Recommendations (cont'd.)

- AFI Plan initiative (SC16/Rec 12) requesting AATO with the support of ICAO and Africa's training partners to prepare a training roadmap for Africa to be strongly commended and supported. Will enhance the creation of synergy, effective coordination and lead to focused, structured and effective training initiatives in the AFI Region.



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