



International Civil Aviation Organization

**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
SIXTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/16)
(Kigali, Rwanda 19-23 November 2007)**

Agenda Item 3: Global and Inter-regional activities

3.2: Global Aviation Safety Plan

**Global Implementation of Aerodrome Certification, including
Safety Management Systems (SMS)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper reintroduces A36-WP/14 on the status of global implementation of aerodrome certification, including safety management system (SMS), and provides related information on the discussions arising from the recent 36th Session of the ICAO Assembly.

Action by APIRG is proposed at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The 36th Session of the ICAO Assembly, which was held in Montreal, Canada, from 18 to 28 September 2007, was presented with a paper WP/14 by the ICAO Council entitled **Report on the implementation of aerodrome certification requirements in Annex 14, Volume I**.

1.2 A copy of the paper, A36-WP/14, is attached to this working paper.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Globally, aerodrome certification regulations had been promulgated in sixty-seven of the eighty-seven Contracting States which responded to an ICAO survey conducted in 2006 to assess the level of implementation of aerodrome certification including SMS. A total of 401 out of 680 international aerodromes in the responding States had been certified. SMS had been implemented by forty-five States and 258 international aerodromes in those responding States. It should be noted that the results of the survey represent the situation in only 46 per cent of the total number of ICAO Contracting States.

2.2 On a regional perspective, seventeen out of forty-seven Contracting States in the AFI region responded to the survey. Thirteen out of these seventeen AFI States that responded to the survey had reported promulgating the regulations for aerodrome certification. In regard to aerodrome safety management, seven responding AFI States had indicated promulgating the requirements.

2.3 With respect to implementation, there were twenty international aerodromes in the AFI region that had been certified. Fourteen international aerodromes had reported implementing an aerodrome safety management system.

2.4 It was noted in A36-WP/14 that although some States had provided for the requirement of aerodrome certification at various levels of the legislative/regulatory system, there was as yet no formal certification process. Several civil aviation administrations had also cited a lack of progress due to insufficient

autonomy, inadequate structure and expertise. Some States were also in the process of changing their civil aviation structures to become autonomous agencies.

2.5 With regards to some of the problems faced by States in the AFI region in implementing the Annex 14 requirements on certification, it was noted that many States in the region reported having difficulty with the legal aspects of implementation. In addition, there had been several requests from AFI States for more ICAO assistance in the development of technical guidance for certification and operation of aerodromes.

2.6 The Technical Commission of the 36th Session of the Assembly, when reviewing A36-WP/14, noted the relatively low level of global implementation of aerodrome certification, including SMS, and urged States to undertake certification of aerodromes, as a matter of priority and to ensure that SMS are introduced at their aerodromes. The Commission also noted the suggestions for ICAO to conduct additional workshops/seminars on aerodrome certification and aerodrome safety management system, including the development of uniform, harmonized guidance on the latter. In this regard, APIRG/16 may wish to note that three seminars/workshops on aerodrome certification are currently being planned to be held in ICAO regions within the next 2008 – 2010 triennium.

3. **ACTION BY APIRG:**

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained in this working paper as well as in working paper A36-WP/14, as attached, and to urge States in the AFI region to:

- a) undertake certification of aerodromes, as a matter of priority; and
- b) ensure that safety management systems are introduced at their aerodromes.

Attachment : A36-WP/14
