



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**FIRST MEETING OF THE AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN
REGIONAL AVIATION SAFETY GROUP (RASG-AFI/1)
Kampala, Uganda (26 – 27 March 2012)**

Agenda Item 3: Global Aviation Safety

THE SAFETY FUND (SAFE)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This information paper presents an overview of the Safety Fund (SAFE), including the process followed for its establishment and the classification of contributions. The paper also refers to the project prioritizations process and follow-up actions for States willing to submit projects for funding and/or make contributions to the Fund.

Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):

Safety

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of the Fund is to improve the safety of civil aviation by addressing significant safety concerns in countries which lack the financial means to do so, as well as by providing ICAO with the management reserve required to act immediately and effectively on urgent safety issues and in response to unforeseen events. SAFE serves as a mechanism for the collection and use of voluntary contributions from States and other donors to support ICAO safety programmes in a responsible, consistent, transparent, efficient and timely manner. SAFE also minimizes administrative costs and it does not affect Regular Programme activities.

1.2 In May 2010, the Council approved the establishment of SAFE and further considered that the Fund might provide a framework in which the activities conducted under the International Financial Facility for Aviation Safety (IFFAS) could be undertaken more efficiently.

1.3 Subsequently, the Council dissolved the IFFAS and strongly recommended that IFFAS contributors to transfer remaining IFFAS funds to SAFE.

2. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SAFE FUND

2.1 Contributions to SAFE fall under one of the following two classifications:

- a) un-earmarked contributions for safety-related projects that will be identified by ICAO; and

- b) earmarked contributions that are intended for a specific new or existing safety-related project and/or activities.

3. PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

3.1 To facilitate the project prioritization, a Project Review Committee (PRC) has been established. The PRC has the mandate to review project proposals and make recommendations for allocations under the Safety Fund. Members of the PRC are responsible for providing policy and normative advice on the design of projects; reviewing the submitted projects; as well as making recommendations to the Secretary General on the allocation of funds to projects based on the validity of each proposal and its adherence to funding criteria. The first meeting of the SAFE PRC took place in December 2011 and adopted the funding application form, as well as the PRC Terms of Reference.

4. SAFE-FUNDED PROJECT ACTIVITY

4.1 Until now, SAFE funds were used to finance an ICAO study of ageing aircraft in the AFI Region. The purpose of the study was to:

- a) collect information/data on ageing aircraft within the AFI region, fleet replacement plans and accidents/incidents that have occurred in the region over the last decade;
- b) identify ageing aircraft operating in the Region that require special management;
- c) identify the hurdles preventing access to appropriate maintenance facilities and develop action plans to tackle them;
- d) compile, compare and analyze the information/data for the purpose of developing an effective remedy plan aiming at reducing ageing aircraft accidents/incidents in the AFI region; and
- e) study the need for providing technical training to maintenance personnel in the AFI region.

4.2 The study has been completed recently, and the ICAO Secretariat is currently analyzing the conclusions and recommendations with the aim of developing projects that particularly address training needs and development of process to ensure the provision of continuing airworthiness information in respect to ageing aircraft.

4.3 Additionally, the SAFE fund was used to funnel funds contributed by the United States in order to assist South Sudan with the management of the heavy air traffic generated by the 9th of July inaugural event at Juba Airport. The event was successfully managed by a multinational group of air traffic controllers and engineers, mainly from L'Agence pour la Sécurité de la Navigation Aérienne en Afrique et à Madagascar (ASECNA).

5. NEXT STEPS

5.1 A State letter is being prepared to invite Member States and groups of States to submit projects for funding as well as to invite Donor States to contribute to the Fund. Projects in need of funding will be posted on the Safety Collaborative Assistance Network (SCAN).

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