



SAFE SKIES.
**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE.**

**ICAO RISK ASSESSMENT SEMINAR
FOR CIVIL AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS
NEAR OR OVER CONFLICT ZONES**

Nairobi, Kenya : 23 -25 June 2025



Navigating Complexity: International and Regional Conflict Zone Risk Management Perspectives

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KENYA AIR FORCE

**ICAO Regional Risk Assessment Seminar for Civil Aircraft Operations Over or
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Scope

01 Conflict Zone Complexity

02 6C Concept

03 Air Operations stakeholders

04 Operational Risk Categories

05 Risk Mitigation Tools & Strategies

06 Conclusion

Understanding Conflict Zone Complexity



Hybrid Warfare

Modern conflicts involve cyberattacks and proxy militias, creating unseen threats.



Non-State Threats

Irregular actors and non-state groups complicate traditional air operations.



Compressed Timelines

Rapidly evolving situations demand quick decision-making and data processing.



Humanitarian Entanglements

Civilian populations often complicate mission planning and execution.

The 6 Cs of Conflict Airspace



Congested



Contested



Compressed



Connected



Complex



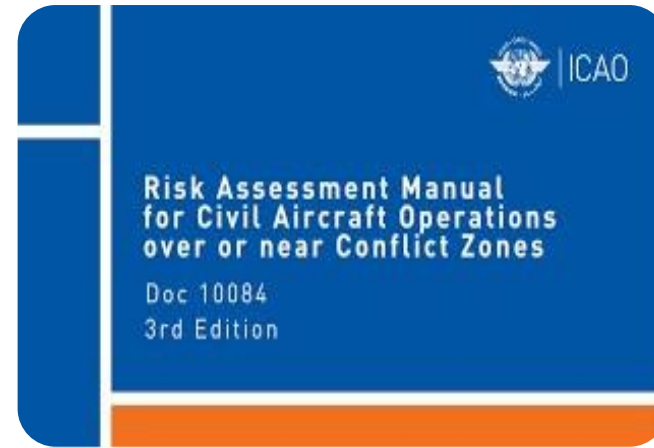
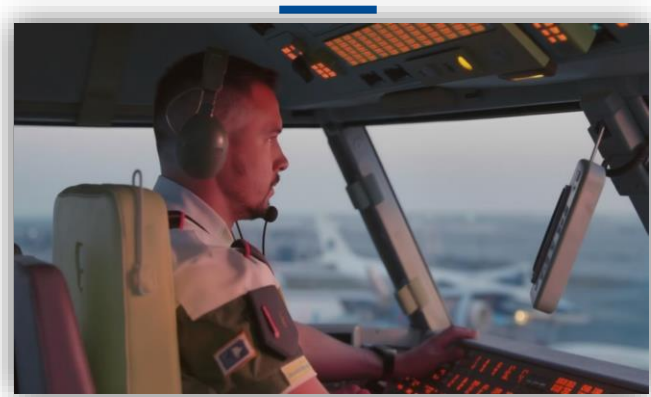
Confused





Risk probability	Risk severity				
	Catastrophic A	Hazardous B	Major C	Minor D	Negligible E
Frequent 5	5A	5B	5C	5D	5E
Occasional 4	4A	4B	4C	4D	4E
Remote 3	3A	3B	3C	3D	3E
Improbable 2	2A	2B	2C	2D	2E
Extremely improbable 1	1A	1B	1C	1D	1E

What is expected of us as Air Operations stakeholders?



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Operational Risk Categories



Strategic

Border violations, diplomatic incidents, regional destabilization.

Operational

Close air support near civilians, ISR risk zones, ground fire threats.

Loss of GPS, signal spoofing, cyber attacks, system failures.

Technical

Humanitarian

Restricted access for evacuees, aid delivery zone challenges.

Technological Aids

- ✓ Live airspace updates via AI platforms.
- ✓ Common Operating Picture (COP) overlays.
- ✓ Predictive routing using ISR inputs.

Command-Level Best Practices

- ✓ Red-teaming and scenario drills.
- ✓ Clear ROEs.
- ✓ Civil-Military Coordination.
- ✓ Training for degraded navigation and ATC loss.
- ✓ Joint ATC and military liaison cells in-theater.

Leadership & Policy

- ✓ Institutionalize risk culture—don't just manage missions, manage uncertainty.
- ✓ Demand interoperability—complex airspace requires common procedures, not guesswork.
- ✓ Lead joint coordination efforts—fragmented airspace kills. Cohesion saves.
- ✓ Push for resilient ATC networks across regions—technology alone isn't enough; trust and training are key.
- ✓ Champion Safety-led solutions for all airspaces—sovereignty, safety, and strategy must align.
- ✓ Insist on shared situational awareness—if we don't share the picture, we create blind spots.
- ✓ Make air corridors safe again—one protocol, one partner, one mission at a time.

Conclusion



- ❖ **Airspace superiority is not inherited—it’s earned through discipline, data and de-confliction**
- ❖ **Collaboration in threat analysis and assessment is thus imperative for us all**
- ❖ **“In conflict zones, the sky may look CAVOK, but safety lies not in visibility—it lies in vigilance through threat analysis”**
- ❖ ***Air Operations stakeholders are risk architects. Our judgment, preparation and adaptability define mission success and save lives***



Thank You!