



**AFI Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in  
Africa  
Tenth Steering Committee Meeting  
Montreal, Canada, 25-26 October 2012**

**REPORT ON MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON AVIATION SAFETY IN AFRICA  
Abuja, Nigeria, from 16 to 20 July 2012**

(Presented by AFCAC)  
**Revision No. 1**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This paper seeks to provide a feedback on the outcome of the Ministerial Conference on Aviation Safety in Africa which took place Abuja, Nigeria, from 16 to 20 July 2012 on the common frame of reference on aviation safety initiatives and aviation safety targets for implementation within the AFI region. The targets have been formulated by taking into account, both current and emerging issues relating to aviation safety.

Action by the meeting is contained in paragraph 5.

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Ministerial Conference on Aviation Safety in Africa was held at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel Abuja, Nigeria, from 16 to 20 July 2012. More than 250 participants attended, representing 38 States and 15 international organizations.
- 1.2 The Conference was addressed by high dignitaries including the Vice President of the Republic of Nigeria, the Honourable Minister of Aviation (HMA) of the Republic of Nigeria, The President of ICAO, the Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy of AUC, CEO of IATA, President of AFCAC, Secretary General of AFRAA and others.
- 1.3 At this Conference, specific and measurable aviation safety targets were established in order to enhance safety standards and implement all safety initiatives in the region. The Safety Targets with the Plan of Action on Aviation Safety in Africa also include recently identified emerging issues that may threaten aviation safety in the African region.

## **2 SAFETY TARGETS**

- 2.1 The Safety Targets, as endorsed by the African Ministers responsible for Aviation were developed on the basis of targets previously adopted from major events/conferences (i.e. African Union, AFCAC, ICAO, AFI Regional Air Navigation meetings, the Global Aviation Safety Plan etc.), and the various initiatives and recommendations aimed at assisting States to ensure Effective Implementations (EI) of their safety oversight obligations that have been held in Africa over the last six years. The newly identified emerging issues that may threaten aviation safety in the African region are also included in the Safety Targets, (see Appendix A).
- 2.2 The Targets are also aligned with the ICAO Strategic Objectives for safety which were recently introduced in ICAO Work Programmes. The aim is to revise, streamline and bring up-to-date in a consolidated manner, all these elements on a single continental page of reference.
- 2.3 These targets are considered realistic, achievable and measurable. The focus in their formulation is directed to States for their ownership with the implied involvement of continental/sub-regional bodies, aviation stakeholders and partners.
- 2.4 Political will and support was demonstrated at the Ministerial Conference on Aviation Safety which will significantly help to implement aviation safety in the AFI region, to strengthen regulatory oversight and enhance safety performance. The political support demonstrated during the Conference is seen as an important element for achieving the Safety Targets within the time lines as indicated in the Plan of Action on Aviation Safety in Africa.

## **3 PLAN OF ACTION ON AVIATION SAFETY IN AFRICA**

- 3.1 In order to systematically and effectively achieve the above safety targets the Conference developed a Plan of Action on Aviation Safety in Africa to monitor and evaluate the status of implementation of the various issues, recommendations and initiatives, (see Appendix B).
- 3.2 The following issues were taken into consideration in developing the Action Plans:
  - Aviation Safety Targets and Action Plans adopted by previous African Ministerial and other Technical meetings
  - AFCAP Key Performance Areas and Indicators
  - Performance Framework of Special AFI-RAN
  - 8 Critical Elements of Safety Oversight
  - Establishment of sustainable funding mechanisms for Aviation Safety
  - Attracting, Training & Retaining of Aviation Personnel
  - Follow up mechanism to ensure implementation of the Plan of Action (AFCAC, AUC and Ministerial Aviation Safety/Peer Review Sub Committee)
  - Process for continuous sensitization of Political Leaders (Ministers, Heads of Governments, Parliamentarians, etc.

#### **4 MINISTERIAL DECLARATION**

- 4.1 In relation to the compelling need to continuously improve aviation safety in Africa and the need to urgently find immediate and sustainable resolution to deficiencies in safety oversight, the Conference developed a Declaration called the “ABUJA DECLARATION ON AVIATION SAFETY IN AFRICA”
- 4.2 The Declaration detailed high level commitments by the Ministers to provide a common frame of reference on aviation safety initiatives and aviation Safety Targets for implementation within the AFI region, (see Appendix C).

#### **5 Action by the meeting**

The meeting is invited to

- a) look thoroughly at the Safety Targets and Action Plan developed and integrate them within the AFI plan
- b) urge African States, ICAO, AFCAC, AFRAA, IATA, RECs and other stakeholders to vigorously pursue the implementation of the proposed Safety Targets in conformity with the set time lines and identified strategies.

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