

## **Proposed Approach on Examination of the Feasibility of an Asia Pacific Civil Aviation Commission (APCAC)**

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### **ISSUE**

The 57<sup>th</sup> DGCA Conference has asked the Regional Cooperation Mechanisms Taskforce as part of its Work Program to examine the feasibility of an APCAC and report on progress to the next DGCA Conference.

### **INFORMATION GATHERING ON A CIVIL AVIATION COMMISSION**

- Examine the different types of CACs currently in place i.e. ECAC, AFCAC, LACAC, ACAO.
- Look at their objectives, responsibilities, organisational structures (including relationship with ICAO), funding, and activities.
- Consider the pre-conditions and operating assumptions that would inform the feasibility of an APCAC, for example:
  - Inclusivity in terms of participation
  - Cost/Benefits and funding/resources (including any staffing/secondments) required
  - Basis of APCAC agreements e.g. consensus on agreed regional issues
  - Any legal obligations and liabilities for a state depending on APCAC format.

### **IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEM AND OPPORTUNITIES**

- Building on work already undertaken by RCM TF, identify current issues and opportunities with regards to civil aviation regional coordination across APAC
- Seek agreement from states on current issues with regional coordination and the objectives of any proposed CAC e.g.
  - Obtaining regional agreement on a regional aviation safety plan, regional air navigation plan and regional aviation security plan;

- Obtaining agreement on regional approach to other ICAO aviation objectives e.g. aviation facilitation, aviation environment or economic development;
- Obtaining regional agreement on aviation policies, proposals and initiatives we wish to pursue as a regional bloc with ICAO (e.g. for endorsement at the ICAO Assembly);
- Technical assistance and capacity building for APAC States.

## **ASSESSMENT OF FEASIBILITY OF AN APCAC**

- Assess the extent to which a CAC will address the issues and opportunities agreed by states, and the benefits this will have.
- Assess the challenges and costs associated with a CAC including:
  - Building consensus across a diverse region with States in different stages of aviation development
  - Role of industry in the CAC
  - Funding any Secretariat, staffing, secondments, office, etc.
- Assess the different options for how such challenges and costs may be reduced e.g.
  - Options for a more streamlined and focused CAC, rather than a more structured Ministerial/secretariat style of CAC as established in other regions.
  - Setting realistic objectives and focuses on areas where there is already consensus and support of member states
- Compare the benefits and costs of a CAC, with alternative arrangements which may be available for improving regional cooperation, coordination issues and representation internationally.

## **SUMMARY**

- Having covered the matters raised above, prepare a report for consideration by the DGCA on the feasibility of an APCAC.

**TASK ASSIGNMENTS**

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<b>Part 1: Information gathering on a Civil Aviation Commission</b>	Australia (Lead) Bangladesh China Nepal Sri Lanka
<b>Part 2: Identifying the problem and opportunities</b>	New Zealand (Lead) Fiji Japan Republic of Korea Singapore United States
<b>Part 3: Assessment of feasibility of an APCAC</b>	Singapore (Lead) Hong Kong, China Japan New Zealand Republic of Korea United States